

*Happy holidays from all of us
here at the Bay Area Reporter!*

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Judge hears evidence in harass case

by Cynthia Laird

A preliminary hearing got underway last week in San Francisco Superior Court for two activists charged with multiple counts of harassment, threats, and stalking against city health officials and members of the media. The hearing is expected to continue next month so that a judge can determine whether there is sufficient evidence to proceed to trial.

Michael Petrelis and David Pasquarelli remain in the San Francisco County Jail. Bail for Petrelis is \$500,000, while bail for Pasquarelli was increased to \$600,000 after he was arraigned on additional charges (see story, page 15).

The two face numerous felony and misdemeanor charges stemming from the alleged threats and harassment which, prosecutors charge, escalated in late October and November after a series of reports were released in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Bay Area Reporter* detailing an increase in syphilis rates in the gay community and after a magazine comment concerning quarantine of gay men was attributed to a health official.

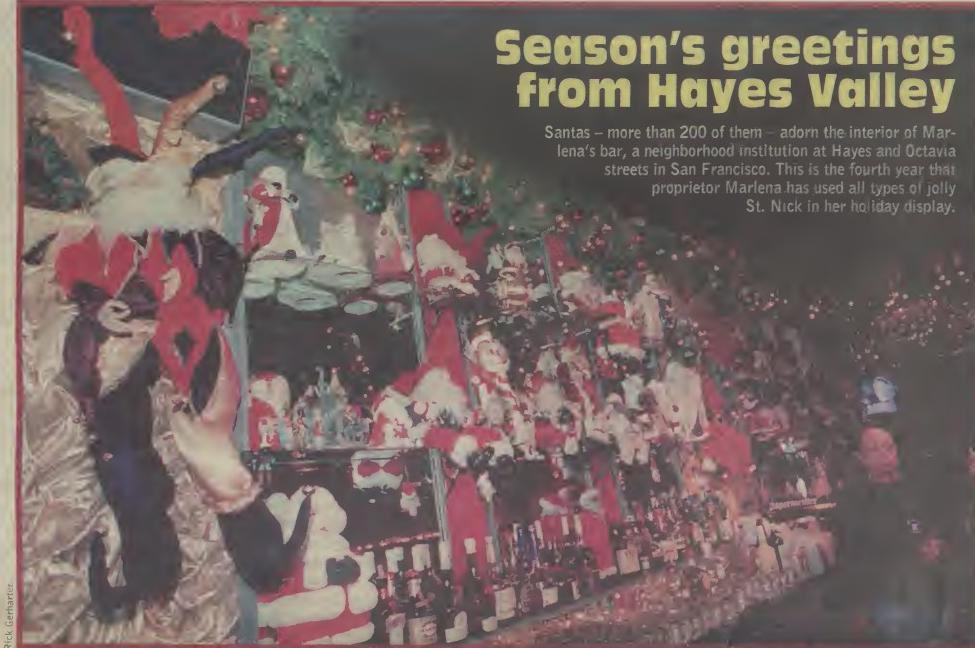
The preliminary hearing began last Thursday, December 13, before Superior Court Judge Perker Meeks Jr. Because of a previously scheduled vacation and because defense attorneys have other cases, Meeks continued the hearing to January 23.

According to charges filed by Assistant District Attorney Machaela Hocor, Petrelis faces one felony count of conspiracy, three counts of felony stalking, four counts of felony terrorist threats, and 11 counts of misde-

meanor

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Season's greetings from Hayes Valley

Santas — more than 200 of them — adorn the interior of Marlena's bar, a neighborhood institution at Hayes and Octavia streets in San Francisco. This is the fourth year that proprietor Marlena has used all types of jolly St. Nick in her holiday display.

Charity's bell-ringers collect gay-rights notes

by Matthew S. Bajko

Bay Area gay-rights activists have joined a national protest that turns the Salvation Army's red kettles into cauldrons of concern. Instead of depositing money, gay-rights supporters are leaving doctored dollar bills meant to educate the Christian charity about the danger of their discriminatory policies toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people.

The Flint, Michigan chapter of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays conceived the kettle protest, which has been adopted by many of PFLAG's 470 affiliates nationwide. The kettle protest idea spread via e-mail and PFLAG posted a copy of the bills on its Web site at www.pflag.org.

"We support organizations working to address poverty in our communities. However, we cannot support an organization that discriminates against our loved ones," said Mary Scholl, president of PFLAG's Genesee County chapter. "We intend to give to charitable organizations that understand and accept gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons as equal citizens, entitled to the same consideration as every other person."

Basic Rights Oregon, a LGBT advocacy group based in Portland, Oregon, has also issued phony \$3 bills, via the group's Web site at www.basicrights.org, to be dropped into Salvation Army buckets during the holidays. The bills read, "When the Salvation Army ends its policy of religious bigotry and discrimination against gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people, then and only then will this be a real dollar bill."



A mock \$3 bill designed by activists in Oregon to protest the Salvation Army.

you're with about the Salvation Army's policy of discrimination. Because in a season of giving, we should value above all the gift of

human dignity and equality."

Plans to use the Salvation Army's red kettles as an educational vehicle were already under way when the national Salvation Army

derailed a new policy of its Western Division granting benefits to Salvation Army employees' domestic partners. Announced in San Francisco, the Western Division had sought to comply with the city's equal benefits ordinance which requires all city contractors to offer benefits to domestic partners of employees if those benefits are offered to spouses of employees.

After the Western Division's change was announced, the national Salvation Army announced a new policy denying its divisions the power

page 14 ▶

Tessie's gears up for Christmas

by Katie Szymanski

Now that its famous Thanksgiving feast has come and gone, Tenderloin Tessie's is preparing for its annual Christmas Day dinner celebration. The dinner is held at the First Unitarian Church at Franklin and Geary on Tuesday, December 25 from 1-4 p.m. and is expected to draw 1,000 people.

As always, Tessie's needs volunteers for the day, including people who will work set-up and clean-up, the two least popular shifts of the event. Tenderloin Tessie's director Tom Basch surmised that serving shifts tend to attract the most helpers, in

part because volunteers enjoy the direct contact with diners.

"The behind the scenes stuff, believe it or not, is just as helpful," said Basch.

Kitchen and set-up shifts are from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. that day, while clean-up runs from 4-6 p.m. Dining room/serving shifts are available from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Other shifts include kitchen and dining room preparation on Christmas Eve from 5-8 p.m.

For over 20 years, Tenderloin Tessie's has welcomed the homeless, the lonely, and those with or without families to its holiday meals.

For more information, or to be a volunteer, call (415) 922-0422 or (415) 701-1863. ▶

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FIERCELY INDEPENDENT!

Rep. Pelosi defends Stop AIDS Project

by Matthew S. Bajko

After its safe sex programs came under attack by a conservative Republican congressman, the Stop AIDS Project now has the backing of the Democratic Party's highest-ranking woman.

House Democratic Whip-elect Representative Nancy Pelosi (San Francisco) sent a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson asking that "potential punitive measures against Stop AIDS Project be set aside." Instead, Pelosi suggests the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provide better assistance to HIV prevention entities to ensure their programs are in compliance with federal guidelines.

"The federal government has a responsibility to support the difficult, and often heroic, work of these organizations. Through innovative approaches that include neighborhood outreach, community forums, and workshops, Stop AIDS Project provides vital health information to gay and bisexual men in my community," wrote Pelosi. "For nearly 20 years, Stop AIDS Project has been an example for HIV educators nationwide, and its mission continues to be essential in responding to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in San Francisco and across the country."

Representative Mark Souter (R-Indiana) prompted an inquiry into the Stop AIDS Project when he asked the Office of the Inspector General to investigate materials used at the agency's "Booty Call" and "Great Sex" workshops.

Inspector General Janet Rehnquist issued a report in November that claimed Stop AIDS Project had violated CDC guidelines on AIDS-related materials used for its workshops. In her opinion, Rehnquist called the materials "obscene" and said they could be seen as "directly encouraging sexual activity."

Pelosi refutes those claims in her letter, dated December 13, and argues the agency was in compliance with the federal guidelines.

"The workshop materials in question were focused on HIV prevention activities and included information about the potentially harmful effects of promiscuous sexual activity," wrote Pelosi.

Steve Gibson, co-executive director of Stop AIDS, said he welcomes Pelosi's support because she can be a powerful voice for the agency in Washington, D.C.

"She can intervene on our behalf. She can divert attention away

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Public Health and the CDC to ensure full compliance with the materials review process. Stop AIDS receives \$686,000 annually in federal funds.

Pelosi argues in her letter that the services of Stop AIDS Project are crucial to the community as it is the only community-based organization in the city with the specific mission to prevent HIV among gay and bisexual men.

"The mischaracterizations in this IG [inspector general] report could undermine the work of an effective organization, and inadvertently contribute to the burden of disease and death among gay and bisexual men," wrote Pelosi.

While he is not afraid for his own agency, Gibson said he is concerned for other AIDS service organizations that may come under attack due to their programming.

"This is a homophobic attack against us and there are implications for gay agencies throughout the country. If they can pick on Stop AIDS, then what does it mean for other agencies that may not be as well known at the CDC?" Gibson said. ▼

Gay charity celebrates five years with service to all

by Matthew S. Bajko

As the Salvation Army gains front page headlines for its anti-gay stance, a local gay charity quietly celebrates its fifth anniversary next month. Away from the media spotlight, the leaders and volunteers of the Metropolitan Community Foundation are focused on serving those who live at society's margins - no matter their sexual orientation.

And while the foundation grew from the work of the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, it does not preach to those in need. Instead, its programs touch the lives of both gay and straight city residents in need of a warm meal or a place to take a shower.

"We have the distinction of being a gay organization but we reach within and beyond the gay community. Many people we serve are not lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender," said the Reverend Penny Nixon, executive director of the foundation. "We are a place that says we take you however you come in this day of age."

Over the years, more and more people in need of help have heard that message. Since September, the foundation has seen a 30 percent increase in the number of people it serves.

"We really need some help more than ever," said Nixon.

At the foundation's Simply Supper programs on Wednesdays and Fridays, demand is outrunning space and funding. While the programs usually set up to feed 120 people, the foundation has been seating more than 150 people at its meals.

"Word has gotten out it is a good place to come. We serve the best meals in town," said Jeff Morey, director of the supper program.

Each year, the Simply Supper program feeds more than 20,000 meals to hungry and homeless

people. On Tuesdays, volunteers hand out bag lunches behind the Safeway store on Market Street.

"Where we are at right now, we are kind of maxed. We can't, based on space and budget, afford to grow any larger," Morey said. "We don't want to turn anyone away. We have to find additional funding next year if we want to continue growing."

Through its Mission High School shower project, the foundation provides a space for 10,000 hot showers annually, as well as toiletries, towels, clean clothes, and lunch for homeless people and people in housing without shower facilities.

The foundation also works to help educate children in reading and the arts. When the San Francisco School District cut funding to its art curriculum, the foundation teamed with the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy in the Castro to provide music and drama instruction. Each month, 10 volunteers read to 300 children, and an arts instructor teaches six classes each week for 15 children.

The foundation has sponsored in years past an emergency queer youth shelter. Also, through its HIV Legacy Fund, the foundation supports programs for those with HIV/AIDS.

With a staff of eight part-time people and a seven-member board of directors, the foundation runs on a yearly budget of \$300,000. Future plans for the foundation include expanding its services and programs into a new facility, expanding its HIV programs and offering a health clinic.

"We want to grow the financial base of the foundation. Our goal is to do more of a holistic program," explained Nixon. "Feeding someone is pretty basic. We want to do more than the basic." ▼

For more information, call (415) 865-2741.

Victims, police differ on motive in Castro beating

by Katie Szymanski

What distinguishes a brutal beating from a hate crime?

Law enforcement officials often assume that where money is involved, the motive for an attack is robbery. Other assumptions are that when the accused and the victims are the same sexual orientation, hatred is not a factor in an assault.

Community members are not sure why a recent Castro beating was easily dismissed a "fight" by police, but they say they are uneasy about how the situation played out.

In the early morning hours of December 12, a gay man and two friends were reportedly asked for change at Harvey Milk Plaza by a group of males. When the victims refused, they were followed across the street to the Arco gas station and attacked with fists, kicks, and foreign objects.

The victims received multiple bruises and were "bloodied from head to toe," according to one of the victims. One of the victims also received a large gaping slash wound which required multiple stitches at San Francisco General Hospital, as verified by the police report. The entire attack was reportedly caught on surveillance tape by the gas station's video camera.

There is some speculation that the attackers may have been gay themselves, which may have ruled

out an anti-gay hate crime. However, the attackers were all African American, and the victims were white. According to the police report, the incident was classified as a mutual combat situation. And according to the victims as well as their friends, police did very little to protect them at the scene, and no arrests were made.

Captain Ron Roth of the SFPD said that when police arrived at the scene, the parties had already separated, and the victims did not wish to press charges. It was only after the incident subsided that the victims noticed the slash wound, apparently inflicted by a knife or bottle.

But the victims believe it was obvious at the scene that they suffered injuries while the aggressors remained unscathed.

"This was not something we asked for or motivated in any way," said one victim, who asked to remain anonymous for fear of retribution. "We did not throw a single punch."

A Castro merchant who is the employer of one of the victims concurred.

"I saw the videotape and I know that the victims were badly injured," said the merchant, who refused to let his name be used. "It was definitely some sort of hate crime or unprovoked attack. It wasn't a robbery; they didn't go for anything the guys had, including their backpacks. They clearly

wanted to hurt these boys."

The police report states that officers arrived on the scene to find "three black males and two white males in a verbal argument. The physical fight was abated prior to our arrival and both parties were separated."

A follow-up report from a beat officer, according to Roth, confirms that the tape shows one group of assailants and one group of victims. That beat officer also viewed the tape to see if she recognized the assailants as neighborhood regulars, and she did not. The suspects, according to the police report, were four black males ages 20-25. One was wearing a Santa's hat and all-white clothing, the others were wearing dark clothing.

Although sexuality may not come into play during the investigation, those familiar with the incident believe it is unfair to automatically exclude some sort of hate-motivated attack. Additionally, the police also seem to have considered the victims' apparent intoxication as a factor in the altercation.

"Upon talking to both parties, officers observed that they were intoxicated," states the police report.

"This was not a gay bashing," Roth also told the Bay Area Reporter. "This is what looks like a couple of tough guys against a couple of individuals who were under the influence."

The victims reportedly remain afraid to return to the Castro to work and socialize. ▼

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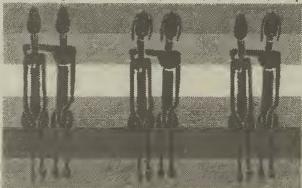
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10 LOCATIONS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Car-ma

by Jane Warner

I 8th and Castro, December 15, 12:15 a.m.: A man reported that he was trying to find a parking space when he saw one open up near the corner of 18th and Castro. Another car was already waiting, but the man told officers he was "fast enough and got the space first." The driver of the car that had been waiting yelled at him, but the man ignored her, locked his vehicle, and walked away. As he got to the corner, he noticed that the driver was standing near his car. Suspicious, the man walked back, and the woman jumped into her vehicle and drove away. The man then noticed that the entire driver's side had a scratch the length of the vehicle. The woman is described as white, 30-40 years old, wearing a black jacket and blue jeans and driving an SUV.

Full disclosure

Church Street Muni station, December 15, 8:25 p.m.: Three police officers patrolling the Muni station observed a man standing with his face turned into an alcove along the station wall. The man was holding a cigarette box and appeared ready to light up. Because it is illegal to smoke cigarettes inside Muni stations, one of the officers approached the man and reminded him of the smoking ordinance. "Oh, I'm not going to smoke cigarettes," the man replied, "all I have is a bud inside my cigarette box." The man opened his box and held it up for the officer to look inside. Sure

enough, the box contained no cigarettes, only a marijuana roach and a white rock that appeared to resemble cocaine. The 44-year-old man was taken to Mission Station for possession of narcotics.

United...

Chevron, 2399 Market Street, December 12, 11:15 p.m.: A man arranged to meet his ex-boyfriend so he could return a bag of clothing. While standing next to his car, the man suddenly felt his ex-boyfriend come up behind him and put him in a headlock. The boyfriend then punched him in the face and pushed him into the side of the car. Reaching onto the back seat, the ex retrieved his clothing and threatened, "I'll kill you, bitch." The ex, described as a white male, 6 feet 3 inches tall, weighing 190 pounds, wearing a gray jacket and blue jeans, walked away in an unknown direction. The victim told police he has filed 27 previous reports against his ex for similar violence. Officers attempted to file an emergency protective order, but a judge refused to grant the request due to the

many orders already granted.

...we stand

500 block of Castro, December 8, 1:30 a.m.: While walking home, a man nervously watched as an older blue Ford Bronco circled the block while its occupants screamed homophobe slurs out the window. As its tires squealed, the Bronco took a hard right on 18th Street, circled the block, and reappeared at 19th and Castro, driving slowly as if looking for victims. The man tried to hide but the driver jumped out and said, "This one's for you," hurling a brick at the man's head. The man next remembered waking up on the sidewalk with his attackers nowhere in sight. He managed to walk home, and his partner took him to Davies Medical Center where he received 21 stitches for scalp wounds and was treated for numerous contusions on his body and arms. The driver is described as a white male, 30-35 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighing 220 pounds, with blond hair. The vehicle is described as a 1965 Ford Bronco with light and dark blue coloring, a burned out left tail light, and no rear license plate. Anyone with information is asked to call Inspector Armour at (415) 553-1133. ▼

Help for the holidays

by Cynthia Laird

Local hotlines will be staffed around the clock to offer counseling and emotional support to potential callers during the holidays.

Special holiday hours will be in effect for the AIDS/HIV Nightline

starting Christmas Eve and continuing through New Year's Day. Volunteers will answer calls 24 hours a day. The number is (415) 434-2437 in SF or (800) 273-2437 from elsewhere in California.

For those feeling suicidal, the SF Crisis Line will also be staffed 24 hours a day; that number is (415) 781-0500. ▼

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A PROPOSAL FOR UNIFICATION AND HEALING

A Message to California AIDS Ride Participants and Supporters from Pallotta TeamWorks

This has been a challenging year for California AIDS Ride. After eight magically successful years, our partnership with our two main beneficiaries — the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) and the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center — has come to an end. This development has been disappointing for all of us at Pallotta TeamWorks. Even more disheartening are the unprovoked accusations and criticisms that have appeared in press releases by these organizations.

We are now involved in a legal case with both organizations. We did not want to do this; we felt in all good conscience that we had to do it in order to safeguard the thousands of people with AIDS, the sick and the dying, who depend upon our work. So, we feel that we owe everyone who has given so much to the Ride over the years the simple facts.

THE FACTS:

- California AIDS Ride has netted over \$40 million for our beneficiaries, and for people with AIDS and HIV, over the past eight years.
- With our other AIDS Rides, Pallotta TeamWorks has netted \$100 million for AIDS organizations around the nation — more cash, raised more quickly, than any AIDS fundraising event in U.S. history.
- On average, more than 60% of every donor dollar contributed to California AIDS Ride has gone to the cause — sometimes as much as 70%. Pallotta TeamWorks' management fees for the event have been less than 5% of donor contributions.
- Pallotta TeamWorks produces the AIDS Ride for a flat fee — we do NO commission-based fundraising. We get the same fee no matter how successful the Ride is. We have no incentive to inflate costs or exceed our budget. We work hard to keep costs as low as possible — our reputation depends on that.
- California AIDS Ride has been safe and professionally executed by us every year since we created it in 1994.
- Our Rides have literally brought hundreds of thousands of new donors to the Center and the Foundation, created over 100 million media impressions, and brought the AIDS awareness message by bicycle through places like Guadalupe and Santa Maria, where children come out into the streets to cheer them on.
- The 2001 California AIDS Ride netted \$6 million for the Center and the Foundation. It is one of the most successful AIDS fundraisers in the world.
- For seven years, we produced this complicated seven-day logistical feat within approved budgets.
- Claims are being made that we went over-budget last year and that there were "improprieties." Let it be known that expenses were within the overall budgeted expenses and added contingency in San Francisco. We went over-budget on several line items, but we made up for that with savings in other line items.
- In Los Angeles, it is true that we went over our budget — by about 8%. For seven years, we stayed within approved budgets and didn't make an error. Now, the first time we do, our reputation and the entire project, which has raised millions for AIDS, are under attack by these organizations.
- With all due respect, years ago, when the Center tried a bike ride of their own, the AIDS Cycle Challenge, all donations were eaten up by expenses — 0% of donor dollars went into services, according to the Executive Director at the time.
- In contract negotiations after the 2001 Ride, the Center and Foundation demanded better cost controls. We offered to forfeit our entire fee if the Ride went over a 5% contingency — in short, to produce the Ride for free. The offer was rejected.
- We also offered to loan the Ride start-up costs and to give all the net proceeds to the Center and the Foundation. The offer was rejected.
- During five months of negotiations to achieve a solution, we spent, in good faith, over \$700,000 of our own money organizing the 2002 Ride. We registered 1,000 riders for them. The Ride was on the road to another successful year. But while we were acting in good faith, the organizations for which we were working were setting up their own competing ride. They have since refused to pay outstanding bills both for the 2001 Ride and for the 2002 Ride.
- When we learned that they were organizing a separate ride while we were organizing California AIDS Ride FOR THEM, they told us not to worry, that it would be a very different event.
- California AIDS Ride is a seven-day bike ride that starts in San Francisco and ends in Los Angeles. So is theirs. Not only is it identical in that respect, but they scheduled it to occur literally days before California AIDS Ride. It is a blatant copy of the event.
- We had an agreement in writing with both organizations that promised they would never exploit the AIDS Ride concept without our permission. They never asked our permission or consulted with us to identify an event and date that would not harm California AIDS Ride. We take our agreements seriously and are left with no option but to pursue legal remedies.
- We're not saying don't fundraise for AIDS. We're not saying don't do events. We're just saying don't do the identical event we're doing on practically the identical date, because it risks the millions we hope to raise this year for people with AIDS, without any assurance that the alternative ride could do as well or that it won't destroy California AIDS Ride.
- You should know that in the alternative contract they demanded that we sign, the Center and Foundation wanted to restrict our ability to stage one of our AIDS Vaccine 3-Day walks in their cities. We think that's wrong; we believe that an AIDS vaccine is a high priority for our community.
- Several years ago, when we asked the Center and the Foundation if they would allow a representative of an AIDS clinic in Africa to come speak at camp and give him a \$5,000 honorarium out of the \$4 million the Ride would net, the Development Director of the Center declined, claiming that it would upset other local AIDS organizations in Los Angeles. What about the sick and the dying in Africa?
- This year, California AIDS Ride will benefit AIDS Project Los Angeles. We're proud to be their partners. We want to see it succeed and continue to help people with HIV/AIDS.
- Charities should no more be able to disregard their written agreements and obligations than anyone else in society.
- We prefer to settle this outside of court, and we have gone out of our way to do so. Reasonable offers that would have protected the interests of the people who are at the heart of our cause were rejected. We don't want a court case, but we won't accept a situation that could jeopardize millions for AIDS.
- The two organizations may be charities, but the course they are pursuing will actually now jeopardize California AIDS Ride. We already had 1,000 riders registered, and the Ride was on track to be a great success. How will hurting that success help anyone?
- Pallotta TeamWorks has raised \$100 million for people with AIDS and over \$100 million to help women with undetected breast cancer. These are net figures, after all expenses. We are not prepared to sacrifice the interests of these people or the interests of our company and the good work we do simply to avoid a legal action.

Let's all do what's right. We would like the Center and Foundation to come join us on one unified California AIDS Ride. Let's get out of the courtroom and put the bikes on the road for our community and our cause. APLA is willing to discuss it. We ask the Center and the Foundation to live up to their professed ideals and help us heal this wound. Let's all go down the road together, for the benefit of those in California with HIV and AIDS.



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OPEN FORUM

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PUBLISHER

Bob Ross

NEWS EDITOR

Cynthia Laird

ARTS EDITOR

Roberto Friedman

POLITICAL EDITOR

Wayne Friday

ASSISTANT EDITORS

Matthew S. Bajko

Mark Mardon

Katie Szymanski

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Dan Aiello • Tavo Amador • Heidi Beeler
 Erin Blackwell • John Blanco • Dan Blue
 Victoria A. Brownsworth • Philip Campbell
 Dale Carpenter • Chris Culwell • Richard Dodds
 Nisa Donnelly • Liz Higleyman • Brandon Juddell
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 Michael McDonagh • Gary Morris • Jim Nawrocki
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 Adrian Roberts • Bob Roehr • Will Shank
 Marv Shaw • Gwendoline Smith • Paul Thomason
 Aimée Ts'ao • Stephanie von Buchau
 Helen Vozenilek • Ed Walsh • Dick Walters

ART DIRECTION & LAYOUT

Adrian Roberts

AD PRODUCTION & DESIGN

David Ensign

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Scott King

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jane Philomen Cleland • Darlene/PhotoGraphics
 Marc Geller • Rick Gerhardt

ILLUSTRATORS & CARTOONISTS

Paul Burge • Jerry Bussey
 Ben Carlson • Fran Frisch

GENERAL MANAGER

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ADVERTISING MANAGER

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CIRCULATION

Clifford Webb

BARTALK PERSONALS

Mike Lacy

NATIONAL ADVERTISING
REPRESENTATIVE

Rivendell Marketing Company, Inc.

212.242.6863

LEGAL COUNSEL

Thomas E. Horn, Esq.

MEMBER

National Gay Newspaper Guild

United Press International



Bay Area Reporter

395 Ninth Street
 San Francisco, CA 94103
 415.861.5019 • 415.861.7230
<http://www.ebar.com>

News Editor • barpaper@aol.com
 Arts Editor • bararts@aol.com
 Advertising • baradv@aol.com

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Armchair activism

Last week an open letter was circulated over the Internet calling for a decrease in bail for Michael Petrelis and David Pasquarelli, who are in jail on criminal charges. The first thing we noticed about the letter was that it contained only one signer from the Bay Area. Since last week, that number has increased slightly, but it's telling that Bay Area progressives have, for the most part, shied away from putting their names on a letter that originated on the East Coast by activists with little, if any, firsthand knowledge about the case.

As many readers are no doubt aware, Petrelis and Pasquarelli have been charged with numerous felony and misdemeanor crimes stemming from their alleged harassment, threats, and stalking of public health officials and members of the media. Late last week nine more charges were filed against Pasquarelli, this time involving researchers and other employees from the University of California, San Francisco. Petrelis remains in the San Francisco County Jail on \$500,000 bail; Pasquarelli's bail was increased to \$600,000 following the additional criminal counts. Several judges, despite hearing impassioned pleas from defense attorneys to lower the bail, have refused to do so. In liberal San Francisco, that speaks volumes.

The men did much more than a simple "phone zap," which is how the open letter describes the action; rather, as witnesses testified during the preliminary hearing last week, they repeatedly called health officials at home and work, threatening and harassing them. The allegations against the men represent a severe escalation of their tactics, which many local residents have witnessed or experienced over the years. Petrelis and Pasquarelli have disrupted public meetings and have staged demonstrations without legal repercussions. These latest charges stem from the belief among prosecutors and the victims that harm may come to them; the charges are not about freedom of speech nor should this become a political trial, as the defense so desperately sought to portray

the charges last week.

One only has to listen to tapes of the phone messages to realize that the charges are warranted and should be taken seriously. Dr. Jeff Klausner, director of the sexually transmitted disease program for the Department of Public Health, received this ominous call from Pasquarelli: "...We can do this the easy way or the hard way when members of ACT UP/San Francisco come down to visit." Since Klausner's office had been the target of vandalism by ACT UP/SF a couple of years ago, he testified that he was scared when he heard the message. He didn't know what ACT UP/SF might do, and feared for his safety and the safety of co-workers.

Many, many similar calls were placed to

many, many others. In fact, the prosecution still has several more witnesses to take the stand when the preliminary hearing resumes next month.

Petrelis and Pasquarelli have long ranted for and demanded accountability among AIDS service organizations and HIV prevention programs. With these criminal charges, Petrelis and Pasquarelli are finally being held accountable for their alleged criminal actions — and that's what this case is about. The armchair activists who have signed on to the open letter should realize that there is a difference between genuine political activism and the intimidating and threatening actions of Petrelis and Pasquarelli that undermine debate around HIV/AIDS and cast a pall over legitimate forms of political protest. ▀

Editorial

SOME NEW SCENTS for HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING...

RON WILLIAMS
WILLIAMS
@AOL.COM

Improve HIV prevention

by Jeffrey M. Leiphart, Ph.D.

In a recent article in the *Bay Area Reporter* "Coates drops HIV prevention bombshell," Dr. Tom Coates from UCSF's AIDS Research Institute was quoted as saying "maybe we should just stop" HIV prevention programs. Although stopping HIV prevention programs is one option, a better one is to bring more effective risk-reduction programs to the prevention table.

Currently, HIV prevention is based upon the health education model which asserts that providing an at-risk individual with information about risk will result in behavior change. This model generates a specific type of prevention intervention: "information messages," which have been the core of HIV prevention since its inception in the mid-1980s. Now, despite the increasing number of new HIV infections, especially among gay and bisexual men of color and youth, we continue to dispense "information messages" to at-risk individuals and continue to believe that if they understand which behaviors are risky, then they will successfully avoid those behaviors. We are misguided in this belief. Although information is necessary, it is not sufficient to change sexual risk behavior.

Gay and bisexual men know what sexual behaviors place themselves and others at risk of becoming HIV-infected, so why does unsafe sex continue? The answer lies in the depths of the human mind, heart, and emotions. Psychologists and other mental health professionals have unearthed some important findings showing that sex is much more than a biologically-driven behavior. Sexual contact is an important part of our identity and self-worth; an important source of connection and intimacy with others; can be an effective mechanism for discharging stress and coping with life's difficulties; and can supply pleasure when it is otherwise unavailable in life. Knowledge alone is simply

too weak to compete with the variety of intense emotional motivations that can influence sexual decision-making.

So, given this understanding of human sexuality, how can HIV prevention be improved, made more effective? At Shanti's LIFE (Learning Immune Function Enhancement) Institute we have reviewed prevention research and conducted focus groups. Listed below are statements from individuals that illustrate psychological and social issues driving risky sex:

- Depression and apathy — "Why bother with safe sex, I just don't care."
- Use of drugs/alcohol during sex — "I enjoy sex when I'm high, but then it's just so easy to forget about safety."

- Psychological stress and anxiety — "Uninhibited sex provides me with such a good way to reduce stress that it just seems to override my intention to be safe."

- Self-assertiveness — "I want to practice safe sex but sometimes I don't stand up for myself when my sex partner pushes for sex without condoms."

- Unresolved grief and survivor guilt — "My lovers and friends are either infected, sick, or dead. I'm so full of grief and guilt that I just want (unconsciously) to get infected and join them."

- Relationship intimacy — "I'm HIV-negative and my boyfriend is positive. This difference causes so many issues and creates such a gulf between us, that I just want (unconsciously) to become infected so we will again be equal HIV peers."

- Loneliness and lack of intimacy — "I am so lonely and hungry for intimacy. Sex supposes this intimacy so I will take what I can get, whether it is safe or not."

- Magical thinking — "I've been doing unsafe sex for years and stay still negative. I must be immune."

Given this understanding of sexual motivators, the question now becomes "How can HIV prevention efforts incorporate this data and become more effective?" For the last 10 years the LIFE Program, now based at Shanti San Francisco, has been operating as a risk-reducing prevention counseling program for individuals at-risk for HIV transmission. Over the years, LIFE has been implemented successfully for both HIV-positive and HIV-negative individuals. LIFE operates in a group setting that is structured, topic-driven and supportive, in which at-risk individuals (1) learn that maintaining safe behavior also requires addressing a variety of psychological and social issues

that drive risky sexual behavior; (2) identify their own unique combination of psychosocial issues that drive their risky sexual behavior; (3) prioritize which issues need to be improved first; (4) develop a performance improvement plan to reduce the impact of risk-driving issues; and (5) implement and maintain the performance improvement plan.

This new approach to HIV prevention — risk information plus risk-reduction skills — is more than just a promising possibility. The LIFE prevention counseling program for gay and bisexual men will be offered in San Francisco, beginning in February 2002, via CDC prevention funding from the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Also in 2002, LIFE will be implemented and evaluated as a risk-reducing prevention counseling program in four California cities via funding from the State Office of AIDS, Prevention Branch.

Now is not the time to stop HIV prevention efforts, but rather a time to incorporate findings from prevention research and client input into more effective programs. Let's not stop HIV prevention, let's improve it. ▀

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Lights for the Christmas tree

This week I sent a Christmas gift check to Positive Resource Center for \$100 and now I ask you, the community, to match part or all of it so that together we can create a Christmas money tree for Positive Resource Center. Why would a board member of AIDS Emergency Fund want to create a money tree for PRC?

The answer is because I personally know 15 to 20 people who have received life changing assistance from PRC (or ABC as it was previously known). How many do you know? If each person who knows someone helped by PRC gives \$20, PRC will receive much needed funds to help recover from the drop in donations and funding since September 11.

If you know Donna Sachet, a board member of PRC, or Mark Murphy, PRC's director, or Gary Virginia, give \$20 or more for all the great work they and PRC have done and continue to do for us. PRC has helped thousands of people get back to work or get benefits, since 1988. Now let's help PRC.

Together we can light a "Community Christmas Tree" for PRC and give back some of the great gifts of love that PRC has given us and its clients. Send your Christmas checks to Mark Murphy at: Positive Resource Center, 973 Market Street, 6th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Thanks everybody.

Peter Fiske
San Francisco

Welcomes Diesel

I, for one, would welcome a Diesel store in the Castro and so would many of my friends living in the Castro ("Diesel sizes up the Castro," December 13). We also love the Pottery Barn and shop there often. It is a great place to buy items for your home and also a great place to pick up gifts for those special occasions.

Someone should tell Mr. Avicoli Mecca that the Gap most likely will not open a store in the Castro because there is already a beautiful Gap store just a few blocks down Market Street (and I shop there frequently).

If Mr. Avicoli Mecca continues to fight these businesses from opening in the Castro, the Castro will soon be filled with a bunch of empty storefronts. That doesn't sound community serving to me.

James "Jimmer" Cassiol
San Francisco

Neighborhood or mall?

The issue of major corporations having a presence in the Castro is larger than just "I like this store" or "if they don't come in the stores will be empty." The domino effect of more and more corporate chains in the neighborhood means landlords will constantly raise rents until the smaller, local stores cannot afford to remain. Then we may have nothing but the Castro mall which looks like Stonestown or Peoria. It is a complicated equation that includes trying to have popular anchor stores that hopefully bring business to smaller independents without driving them out.

Lion Barnett
San Francisco

Diesel jeans in the Castro

For anyone who is reading this, if you want the district to continue on its way to transforming itself into a mall then simply do nothing. You don't have to raise a voice or write a letter or anything.

If you want the district to slow down what some consider its very fast movement toward that of becoming a major shopping district in the city, i.e. more people in the neighborhood, less parking spaces, more big stores like perhaps a Disney store, Crate & Barrel, or Chevy's, then write an e-mail and send it to all the members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. The e-mail address for all of the supervisors is: Board_of_Supervisors@ci.sf.ca.us,

Toby Wiggin
San Francisco

Focus on our own

As a community, Jews today are much more strongly knit than the LGBT community. I propose that before we consider supporting other minorities – most of whom also bash us and do not help us in any way – we withdraw from our generosity to others, and focus on forming a more cohesive, integrated community of our own. This is neither greedy nor misdirected.

Similar to how German and East European Jews had to withdraw from the mainstream and focus on their own survival as a community (which was not at all a greedy action), we are similarly under mainstream abuse (to put it mildly) and in a position where we have an essential obligation to first take care of our own. In fact, not to do so – to continue financial and other outpouring to non-gay causes – is, at this point in time, a very selfish act. To donate one's time and money to other causes, in the midst of all

this bashing of homosexuals is no less than treason to one's own.

It is not just immature, or ignorant, to accuse me of being selfish and shortsighted, for claiming we have a desperate obligation to direct all our own energies and monies to the gay cause. It is wicked.

Care about the black people? Give to a gay (LGBT) black organization. Care about women's rights? Give to a gay women's group. Care about the homeless? Give to a gay homeless center. Care about our youth? Give to a gay youth program. Or do something on a personal level for one of these troubled gays. And so on. What the European Jews had to do for each other in the 1930s and 1940s, in order to bail out of an intolerable scenario, is exactly what I'm proposing gays do for each other now.

Out-maneuver, out-step, out-wit, out-smart, out-predict, out-do, out-best the enemy: the beast of homophobia.

Thus will we guarantee the victory against this potential holocaust now rising to exterminate us off the face of America, like an approaching string of megatornadoes. They are coming; I hear the gathering roar. Stop bickering amongst ourselves: let's take this great historical opportunity to show the world just what great and numerous heroes we (gays and lesbians) are.

Ezekiel J. Krahlin
San Francisco

Thanks for giving

Omar Mosley, Northern California Mr. Drummer '95, and Don Ho Tse wish to extend our greatest appreciation for your generous donations, totaling \$3,745, for the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Positive Resource Center.



Even in today's rough economic times, as a community you have continued to show the "Power of the Dream" with your giving not only monetarily but giving from the heart and spirit. We personally wish to thank everyone that came and helped make "Eruption 2001" a success and thank those who had other obligations but made contributions. Truly in leather we are family. As "Mama" notes, "Work like you don't need the money, love like you've never been hurt, dance like no one is watching."

Omar Mosley
Don Ho Tse
San Francisco

Freedom and greed

One of the things San Francisco has been most famous for (as far back as Barbary Coast) is freedom. A lot of us came here in the 1960s and even more in the 1970s as we learned San Francisco was the most free and open of any place in the United States. Sex and sexuality was everywhere along with pot smoking, drug experimentation, and a desire to be part of a connected society.

Then it started happening. About 10 years ago, people noticed rents going higher and higher. Then it was reported that San Francisco was the most expensive city (surpassing New York City). Then maybe five years ago it all reached an apex. Rents started doubling and tripling partly because of dot-commers but mostly because of greed. Landlords found that a \$500-a-month place could fetch \$800, then \$1,200 and on and on.

Freedom helped build this city and its worldwide reputation. Greed has all but destroyed it. Willie Brown ("progress at any cost – homeless be damned") has helped to create this atmosphere.

Lately, rents have started creeping down. (Notice all the "for rent" signs staying up for months?) But it will take a lot more before average people can afford to live here.

On a different topic, I am thrilled by District Attorney Terence Hallinan's attempt to stand up to the feds in defense of our state and city laws concerning medical marijuana.

Each new administration has had pot studies which usually conclude that the drug is not bad, not addictive, etc., but they throw away the information and continue to harass everyone involved, including buyers, sellers, and smokers.

Will pot ever become legal nationwide? Will San Francisco ever regain its legendary status as the bastion of freedom and love it once had? Will rents continue to come down? It's now the city that used to know how to party.

Larry Fisher
San Francisco

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Fanatics among us

by Paula Martinac

When do dissent and political activism become fanaticism? This question has engrossed many of us since September 11. And now, given the arrest of two San Francisco AIDS activists charged with stalking and "mental terrorism," it's a question the lesbian and gay movement needs to consider.

In late November, Michael Petrelis and David Pasquarelli, two AIDS activists in San Francisco, were jailed for allegedly making threatening and obscene phone calls to city Department of Public Health officials and journalists at the *San Francisco Chronicle*. The two activists appear to have been enraged by the release of a DPH report on the spread of syphilis among gay men and by *Chronicle* articles about the rise of unsafe sex in the gay community. Pasquarelli is a member of ACT UP/San Francisco, a splinter branch that believes HIV does not cause AIDS.

According to the charges against them, Petrelis and Pasquarelli attempted to silence officials and reporters by placing phone calls to their offices and homes, threatening them and their families with physical violence. In addition, other possible "pranks" linked to the two men include a bomb threat at the *Chronicle* offices and a jamming of the DPH's fax machines with sexually explicit material.

To some in our community, what Petrelis and Pasquarelli stand accused of may seem offensive but relatively harmless, at least in the big scheme of things. After all, they aren't charged with physically injuring anyone, and the \$500,000 bail set for each man is out of proportion to their alleged crimes.

If you compare their brand of militancy to that of the suicide bombers who blew up innocent

people in Jerusalem on December 1, it looks like child's play. For that matter, so does the militant gay Web site usqueers.com, which until recently contained a "wish list" of heterosexuals like Ronald Reagan and Jesse Helms who, the site maintained, "deserve a horrible death." Separately, founder Bruce Allan Ross has pleaded guilty to the attempted kidnapping of a minister he considered to be anti-gay.

I suppose you could argue, too, that Petrelis, Pasquarelli, and Ross are part of a continuum of militant gay activism whose history dates back to the riots at the Stonewall Inn and extends through the "zaps" of ACT UP in the late 1980s and the "I Hate Straights" manifesto that gave birth to the group

Queer Nation in 1990. Militant tactics are understandably born of rage at continued discrimination and violence against gay people.

Stonewall, however, was really self-defens - a reaction against the physical violence of the cops. And while ACT UP and Queer Nation became infamous for in-your-face activism, it's a stretch to classify their actions as "terrorism." In general, the gay movement has lived by the sentiment from that old Holly Near song: "We are a gentle, angry people."

In fact, psychological violence - abusive phone calls and e-mail messages - has no place in the lesbian and gay movement. It's bad enough that the radical right has long wielded mental terrorism as among its most effective weapons against everyone who disagrees with them. When shored up by passionate belief in the "rightness" of one's cause, this kind of tactic easily escalates into physical aggression.

Consider the anti-abortion movement, for example. What began in the mid-1970s as harmless picketing of clinics by anti-abortion activists exercising their right to free speech had, by the end of that decade, grown into

verbal assaults on women seeking abortions, then into bomb threats and the bombing of clinics. In the early 1990s, militant abortion foes introduced a new tactic - murdering doctors and other abortion clinic workers.

Now the latest brand of radical anti-abortion activism appears to be bioterrorism - anthrax threats delivered in the mail. Journalist Laura Flanders recently wrote a startling report in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on the more than 80 abortion clinics across the country that received such powdery threats from 1998 to 2000.

Oregon's Ballot Measure 9 of 1992 provides yet another example. Although it started as a political initiative - the peaceful battle of the ballot box - it grew into a violent conflict, resulting in the deaths of two gay people when their house was firebombed.

Violent activism, then, doesn't spring out of nowhere, and extremism can take many forms and faces. The arrests in San Francisco suggest that the lesbian and gay movement should open a discussion about the tactics we've used in our quest for civil rights and reject those that impinge on other people's rights.

Last year's "Stop Dr. Laura" campaign is a good example of a bad technique. Protesting the faux psychologist's anti-gay views was certainly legitimate. But then our protest intensified into an obsessive drive to force her repugnant-to-us views off television - something that eventually succeeded. I'm sure there are gay activists who would like to silence Laura Schlessinger completely by getting her off the radio, too.

It's important for us to realize that whenever people on the right or the left begin to view themselves as passionately "right" and others as definitely "wrong," fanaticism is able to take root. ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books. She can be reached care of this publication or at LNColumn@aol.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Delivering toys for kids



Members of All Our Families Coalition and their children donated toys to the San Francisco Fire Department station on Sanchez Street last week. The gifts will make Christmas brighter for underprivileged kids in the area. From left, AOFC's Charlie Spiegel and SFFD Lieutenant Anita Paratley look on as Timmy Frazer, 7, Nova Spiegel, 4, and Ada Frazer, 4 show off the donated presents.

Jane Philomen Cleland

POLITICS

Herrera's upset win

by Wayne Friday

t's been more than a week since the runoff election for city attorney and political analysts, experts, consultants, and particularly the political reporters, are still pondering how **Dennis Herrera**, who was reportedly outspent 2-to-1, managed to make up 14 percentage points in a month to overtake front-runner **Jim Lazarus** to win the job many call the second most important elected position in city government.

Clearly, Lazarus, with a strong first-place finish in the November 6 election, was the odds-on favorite to win last Tuesday's election. He had the endorsements of popular U.S. Senator **Dianne Feinstein**, Assemblywoman **Kevin Shelley**, most of the city's political establishment, as well as both the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *San Francisco Examiner*.

Lazarus seemed so sure of victory that, as *S.F. Independent and Examiner* columnist **Warren Hinckle** pointed out "while Lazarus spent election day noon hour at the traditional Allegro election day luncheon on Russian Hill accepting 'congratulations' for an anticipated victory, smiling broadly, back-slapping supporters" assuming he had the election in the bag. Lazarus was seen walking precincts in the Castro and working the Muni entrance at Harvey Milk Plaza right up until the polls closed later that night, pleading with voters who really didn't care about the election to "please get out and vote." It worked — for Herrera, that is.

Further, Lazarus's camp also relied too heavily on the traditional West of Twin Peaks/Republican vote getting to the polls and those voters, too, took a look at the commanding 14 point deficit Herrera faced and assumed their trek to the polls two weeks before Christmas was unnecessary. One highly respected consultant I spoke with after the election remarked to me that, "Jim's campaign became the **Jack Molinari** campaign of 2001; he had a big lead, sat on it, and did nothing but let it slip away" while Herrera never quit campaigning, despite the odds.

Herrera's campaign manager was **Jim Rivaldo**, a veteran campaign consultant who I first met when he was co-manager of the late **Harvey Milk's** first supervisory campaign back in the early 1970s. The day-to-day coordinator was **John Shanley**, another talented veteran of San Francisco political campaigns.

In the runoff, Herrera also benefited from the help of progressives, including public power advocates like **Ross Mirkarimi**, LGBT activists like **Jeff Sheehy** and **Robert Haaland**, and he had the endorsement of every single elected LGBT official in the city. The Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club endorsed Herrera early on in the campaign and the Harvey Milk LGBT Demo Club joined Herrera's campaign in the runoff.

Herrera went out of his way on election night to thank his progressive supporters, especially the LGBT community, acknowledging that the community clearly was an important core of his sup-

port and his upset victory.

In contrast, Lazarus had twice as much money to spend, had the powerful backing of the daily newspapers, and was endorsed in the runoff by **Neil Eisenberg**, one of the original candidates in the race. (The fourth candidate, **Steve Williams**, reportedly was so bitter at not making a runoff spot that he pouted throughout the campaign and refused to endorse either Herrera or Lazarus.)

One only had to note who was where on election night to realize how much of an upset Herrera's come-from-behind win was. Most of the city's political movers and shakers and most of the media were awaiting election results at Pat O'Shea's Irish bar early Tuesday night with Lazarus and his family while Herrera waited for returns at South of Market's Don Ramon's bar with a crowd of progressives, cops, and a lot of gay and lesbian supporters, many of whom came directly from walking a last-minute precinct. Supervisors

Mark Leno and **Aaron Peskin**, Assemblywoman **Carole Migden**, City Treasurer **Susan Leal** and retiring City Attorney **Louise Renne** were at Herrera's side as he accepted the congratulations from the crowd.

Herrera, a maritime attorney who is currently a partner in his own law firm, lives in Potrero Hill with his wife **Anne** and their new baby. He will take office on Tuesday, January 8.

Politics and people

Flags in Berkeley? Got to wonder whose idea it was that put those silly orange crossing flags at Berkeley's busy intersections last week. Just days later a driver hit a woman who was crossing the street and carrying one of the flags. Talk about a moving target! Maybe an American flag would have gotten a bit more respect, but as **Rob Morse** (*Chronicle*) pointed out, they probably aren't allowed in Berkeley.

And about the dozens of workers at San Francisco International Airport, who, following long-overdue background checks were found to have been convicted felons, well, now I don't feel so silly about canceling my annual Thanksgiving trip to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Then there are those bleeding hearts who took offense at my recent comments about **John Walker**, the "poor, mislead, brainwashed boy" from Marin who went to Afghanistan, allegedly attended an al Qaeda camp, joined the Taliban (called the bombing of the USS Cole "justified"), answered the call to jihad and fought alongside **Osama bin Laden**'s thugs. Gimme a break, folks. Incidentally, wasn't that "Taliban Boy's" father, **Frank Lindh**, and his male partner slipping unnoticed (well, almost) into a pew at the Metropolitan Community Church in the Castro last Sunday? Praying, hard, one would suspect, for the fate of his son, no doubt.

Two debates have been scheduled between the three GOP gubernatorial candidates — **Bill Jones**, **Richard Riordan**, and **William Simon**. The debates will be January 22 from 7-8 p.m. at San Jose State University and February 13 from 7-8 p.m. at Califor-

nia State University, Long Beach; both are expected to be televised. The primary is March 5 and the GOP winner will be taking on Democratic incumbent Governor **Gray Davis** in November.

GOP House Majority Whip **Tom "The Hammer" DeLay** (Texas) is expected to succeed retiring House Majority Leader **Dick Armey** in the next Congress assuming Republicans retain control of the chamber after the 2002 midterm elections, and the Democrats couldn't be happier. DeLay, one of the House's most conservative, outspoken, and controversial members, led the drive to impeach President **Bill Clinton** and is probably as controversial as was former House Speaker **Newt Gingrich**. As Representative **Barney Frank** (D-Massachusetts) put it this week: "I think it's healthy; it will be very helpful [for Democrats] to have this guy front and center."

At state Senator **John Burton's** dinner last week before hundreds of high-paying guests, three of the four candidates for Assembly in the 13th District were introduced to the crowd, but Supervisor **Mark Leno**, clearly the leading candidate in that race, was not only not introduced, but not invited to attend. Petty, but certainly not smart politics — Burton's daughter, **Kimiko Burton**, is in a tough fight with **Jeff Adachi** to keep her public defender job in the March election and this is no time to be blatantly antagonizing Leno's many supporters.

Jerry Falwell has told supporters in a new fundraising letter that he is organizing a campaign to take advantage of George W. Bush's popularity from the war to press aggressively for a conservative family-oriented social agenda. The letter makes clear that after a break from political organizing following the terrorist attacks, Falwell is moving briskly to urge the Bush administration to focus on family-oriented legislative battles. "Now is the time for President Bush to get his conservative pro-family agenda through Congress because public support for him will never be stronger than it is now," Falwell wrote in the letter. The fundraising letter sent to more than 2 million Christians clearly demonstrates that Falwell has not been deterred from moving ahead with his agenda, even after a mild rebuke from the White House shortly after the terrorist attacks. The chiding was over Falwell's widely-reported comments that the September 11 attacks reflected God's judgment on a nation spiritually weakened by the ACLU, abortion rights backers, gay rights supporters, and federal court rulings on school prayer. Apparently, with the resignation of **Pat Robertson**, Falwell is attempting a political comeback.

The holiday season is here again and I'd like to take this opportunity to wish an especially healthy and happy holiday season to some of the people who make this column possible all year long as well as some personal friends — my best for a Happy Holiday season to: my longtime friend, the fabulous **Bella**; **Mark Leno**; **Dennis** and **Anne Herrera**; **Dianne Feinstein** & **Dick Blum**; **Dennis Collins**; **Mick Ridolfi**; **Willie Brown**; **Carole Migden** and **Cris Arguedas**; **Kamela Harris**; **Dan & Donna Addario**; **Mike & Beverly Hennessey**; **Bob Golovitz**.

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What role did lesbians play in American reform movements a century ago?

by Paula Martinac

December, 1931 (70 years ago this month): Jane Addams, the founder of Hull-House in Chicago, is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Some of the most famous names in American social movements of the last two centuries belong to women who eschewed heterosexual marriage and lived in intimate relationships with other women. Part of the first generation of women to receive higher education, these pioneering lesbians went on to make significant contributions in social and health-care reform, particularly for immigrant women and children.

Perhaps best-known among lesbian social activists of the past is Jane Addams, who founded the first American settlement house in 1889 in Chicago with her intimate friend from college, Ellen Gates Starr. The purpose of Hull-House was to offer education, medical care, and child-care facilities to the city's large immigrant population. It eventually became a model for settlement houses around the country.

With the start of World War I, Addams became an ardent pacifist. Her efforts on behalf of world peace included founding the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in 1919 and



Hull-House founder Jane Addams

publicly defending immigrants threatened with deportation during the Red Scare of the 1920s. In 1931, Addams was honored with the Nobel Peace Prize.

Most of Addams's biographers have ignored her personal life, assuming she didn't have one because she never married a man. In her day, some critics dismissed her as "a silly, vain, impertinent old maid." In reality, her domestic life was as full and rich as her professional career. After she and Starr grew apart in the 1890s, Addams shared her life and, by her own account, her bed for the next 40 years with Mary Rozet Smith, one of the many women who came to

Hull-House soon after graduating from college for on-the-job training in social work.

Influenced by Addams's Hull-House experiment was another lesbian, Lillian Wald, who grew up in Rochester, New York, and attended nursing school in Manhattan. Wald founded the country's second settlement house, the Henry Street Settlement, in 1893 on New York's Lower East Side. At the same time, she began the Visiting Nurse Service, a band of nurses who traveled over the rooftops of the city's tenements to reach immigrants who could not afford medical care. Such nursing services eventually spread throughout the country. Later in her life, Wald, like Addams, moved from settlement work into peace activism, helping to form the Women's Peace Party and the American Union Against Militarism.

Wald surrounded herself with a circle of supportive female friends (the nurses at the settlement house referred to themselves as "the family") and enjoyed the company of several intimate companions. Among them was Lavinia Dock – known to Wald as "Dockie" – a nurse, suffragist, and union organizer. Outside the Henry Street community were Mabel Kittredge, a wealthy donor,

and Helen Arthur, a lawyer, who once wrote to Wald of longing "to get back to your comfortable lap ... instead of being solicitously hustled from your room at 10 o'clock."

Other lesbians also made names for themselves in the early healthcare movement. Emily Blackwell, for example, was one of the first women to receive a medical degree in this country. When she attended Case Western Reserve's medical school in Ohio in the mid-1850s, she was its only female student.

Although she once wrote that an early desire of hers was to "assume a man's dress and wander freely over the world," Blackwell opted instead for a life of community service.

In the late 1860s, she founded the New York Infirmary for Women and Children, which focused on caring for immigrants and teaching them preventive medicine. Blackwell's infirmary also offered jobs to the many female doctors who had trouble finding employment in the male-dominated medical profession.

In conjunction with her infirmary, Blackwell opened the Women's Medical College, where she trained many pioneering physicians – including Elizabeth Cushman, who became the most important person in her life. Cushman eventually taught obstetrics and gynecological surgery at the school. From 1882 on, the two women joined their lives completely, moving in together and raising Blackwell's adopted daughter, Nannie. "We had a delightful home," Cushman wrote after her partner's death in 1910.

Also educated at Blackwell's medical school was Sara Josephine Baker, known to her intimates as "Jo." After graduation, Baker set up private practice in New York, but quickly found that female doctors earned very little – she brought home a mere \$185 during her first year.

To boost her income, Baker took a civil-service job with the

Department of Health, working as a medical inspector in the Irish slum known as "Hell's Kitchen." There she became absorbed with the plight of immigrant families, eventually helping to create the Child Hygiene Bureau and becoming its full-time director. During her 15 years in public health, Baker led a team of nurses that traversed the city instructing poor mothers about child care. Due in part to Baker's efforts, the city's infant mortality rate dropped dramatically.

In her private life, Baker had several intimate relationships with other women, most notably Ida A.R. Wylie, a novelist and screenwriter. Among Wylie's movie credits was one of Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy's lesser-known films, *Keeper of the Flame* (1943). After Baker retired from her job in 1923, she and Wylie set up housekeeping in Princeton, New Jersey, where they were eventually joined by another doctor, Louise Pearce, in a curious threesome. When Baker died in 1945, Wylie and Pearce became a couple. ▼

Past Out



Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books, including *The Queerest Places: A Guide to Gay and Lesbian Historic Sites*. She can be reached care of this publication or at POcolumn@aol.com.

Suggested reading

Coss, Clare, ed. 1989. *Lillian Wald: Progressive Activist*. New York: The Feminist Press at CUNY.

Faderman, Lillian. 1999. *To Believe in Women: What Lesbians Have Done for America – A History*. New York: Houghton Mifflin.

Schwartz, Judith. 1986. *Radical Feminists of Heterodoxy: Greenwich Village, 1912-1940*, rev. ed. Norwich, Vt.: New Victoria Publishers.

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AIDS dissidents Pasquarelli and Petrelis receive support and condemnation

by Liz Highleyman

Activists have weighed in on the harassment charges against David Pasquarelli and Michael Petrelis, with one group urging a reduction in bail and calling the case a threat to civil liberties, and others maintaining that the case is about criminal behavior, not freedom of speech.

On December 13, a group of activists released an open sign-on letter opposing the charges brought late last month against Pasquarelli and Petrelis. The two remain in jail with several felony and misdemeanor counts stemming from alleged harassing and threatening phone calls made to public health officials and members of the media (including the editor of the *Bay Area Reporter*).

Pasquarelli is a member of the controversial AIDS dissident group ACT UP/San Francisco; Petrelis is an independent activist known for questioning government disease statistics and demanding cuts to funding for AIDS prevention and services.

The "Open Letter of Concern," initiated by New York attorney Bill Dobbs, decries the "shockingly high" bail — \$500,000 each — set for the two men; Pasquarelli has since been charged with additional felonies and misdemeanors and his bail was increased by \$100,000. The letter goes on to claim that the

charges against Pasquarelli and Petrelis are "out of proportion to the harms alleged" and "suggest a political motivation for the prosecution." It ends with a call for "fair legal treatment for Petrelis and Pasquarelli" and "their immediate release on reasonable bail."

The letter was initially released with 30 signatures; over 100 more signed after the letter was circulated by e-mail. Although the list of signatories reads like a who's who of the queer left — notable names include Kay Whitlock of the American Friends Service Committee, Professor David Halperin, ACT UP/NY member Ann Northrop, *Poz* magazine founder Sean Strub, and writers Harvey Fierstein, Doug Ireland, Sarah Schulman, and Barbara Smith — local signers are conspicuously scarce. Judy Greenspan of California Prison Focus was the only initial signer from the Bay Area, joined in the next round by city Commissioner Denise D'Anne and nine others.

According to arrest warrants, Pasquarelli and Petrelis are charged with stalking, making terrorist threats, harassment, and conspiracy. The two have also been accused of calling in a bomb threat to the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Pasquarelli and Petrelis acknowledge making repeated phone calls replete with "foul language," but deny making death threats or bomb threats and say

they have not visited any of their targets' homes or harassed their children. Pasquarelli and Petrelis have been arrested many times and are the subject of numerous restraining orders, but to date neither has been convicted of any violent crimes.

Signers of the open letter are particularly concerned with accusations of terrorism against the activists — especially in light of the recently passed USA PATRIOT Act, which defines "domestic terrorism" in broad terms that could potentially be interpreted to include many forms of political protest. After the arrests, San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan told the media, "We're talking about terrorism here."

According to materials obtained by lawyers for Pasquarelli and Petrelis, University of California at San Francisco staff members met with FBI officials on November 19 and encouraged them to take action against the two men; the FBI declined to pursue federal criminal charges.

"I don't like what [Pasquarelli and Petrelis] did, but I don't think it compares with terrorism," D'Anne told the *B.A.R.*

Some signatories distanced themselves from the actions of Pasquarelli and Petrelis. "The letter is in no way an endorsement of their tactics," Dobbs told the *B.A.R.*, but rather is intended to

"put front and center the issue of political prosecution."

"I take rough and tumble tactics and rhetoric for granted in the political realm. I take a much dimmer view of projecting personal threats into someone's home," said longtime activist Scott Tucker. "The implications of this case go far beyond these two defendants. [After] 9/11, the definition of terrorism has drifted far from ground zero. The prospect of high bail and escalating criminal charges for protest is a genuine threat to civil liberties."

Others voice disagreement

Martin Delaney, founding director of Project Inform — a frequent target of ACT UP/SF — told the *B.A.R.* that the sign-on letter presents a one-sided view.

"What is happening in the legal system is the consequence of [Pasquarelli and Petrelis'] own behavior, their reckless disregard for the law and the well-being and rights of others," Delaney said. "Their activities violate the principles that the rest of us, as AIDS activists, stand for."

Delaney took no position on the appropriateness of the charges or bail, saying he chose to leave such decisions up to the District Attorney's office and the judges. Two judges have reviewed the case and declined to reduce Pasquarelli and Petrelis' bail. The judge presiding over the preliminary

hearing last week also declined to reduce the bail, saying the defense hadn't given proper notice as required by law.

"This open letter of support not only legitimizes [Pasquarelli and Petrelis'] spree of terror here, but also ennobles these men, their messages, and their tactics," said PWA advocate Eric Ciasullo. "Threatening someone's life and/or harassing them at 4:30 in the morning is not the tactic employed by decent, non-violent activists; those are the acts of extremists who will stop at nothing in their spree of hate crimes and violence. This [open letter] is one of the saddest and most irresponsible acts of armchair activism I have ever seen."

While Delaney argues that the actions of Pasquarelli and Petrelis "are not remotely comparable to the tactics of the real ACT UP groups of years past," others are concerned that actions that were previously acceptable will no longer be tolerated in today's political climate.

"The people accusing us of terrorism today are the very same people who sat their asses down on the Golden Gate Bridge and stormed the San Francisco Opera House," ACT UP/SF's Michael Bellefontaine told the *B.A.R.* "If the times had been different then, they too would have been called terrorists. Today we are watching

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Liquid Fire Productions
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Mujadarra Grils
National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR)

New Leaf: Services to Our Community
Pacific Center for Human Growth
Positive Resource Center (PRC)
ProLatino de San Jose
Queer Latino/a Artists Coalition - QuelACO
Queer Youth Training Collaborative (QYTC)
Rainbow Adult Community Housing (RACH)
Rainbow Community Center of Contra Costa County
Sister Spit
Spectrum Center for LGBT Concerns
Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center (TARC)
Tranny Fest: Transgender and Transgenre Film Festival
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In 2001, Horizons Foundation was also pleased to manage \$1,000,000 in AIDS Walk grants to 38 organizations and \$350,125 in donor advised grants to 72 organizations.

In this season of sharing, the board and staff of the Horizons Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank the exceptional grantees, donors, strategic partners and grant reviewers with whom we have the privilege to work in creating a stronger LGBT community for the Bay Area.

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Year in review: A landmark political year for gay equality

analysis by Bob Roehr

[Editor's note: This week we look back on 2001 from a national perspective. Next week's issue will focus on the Bay Area.]

It was a very good political year for gay and lesbian Americans. Perhaps with time we will even come to see 2001 as a pivotal milestone in the struggle for full equality.

January found many apprehensive about the pending inauguration of George W. Bush as president. Some feared a rollback of legal and administrative gains achieved during the Clinton administration and, at the very least, disappearance of Clinton's schmoozing of the community. Clinton's symbolic gestures provided a balm to soothe the often more limited accomplishments.

Many gay organizations joined with liberal allies to vigorously oppose the nomination of John Ashcroft to be attorney general. While most Democrats in the Senate voted against the nominee, they were not willing to mount a filibuster in opposition to him. Log Cabin Republicans saw the controversy as an opportunity to open a dialogue with Ashcroft and were the first group to officially meet with him after he was sworn into office. That was seen as a sign of inclusiveness by the new administration.

Much of the fear of the Bush administration largely dissipated over the ensuing months. Existing non-discrimination protections remain in force; there have been no rollbacks. While the photo opportunities have disappeared, the door has remained open on issues of substance, albeit often at a lower level.



Bush's AIDS czar Scott Evertz

Perhaps the most visible acknowledgment of the community came with the April appointment of Scott Evertz to head up the Office of National AIDS Policy, the first time that an openly gay man has led that office. Other openly gay and lesbian appointees have chosen not to make public statements of their orientation. Lesbian Mary Cheney, daughter of the vice-president, was highly visible at the inauguration but has since disappeared from public view.

In September, Michael E. Guest was sworn in as U.S. ambassador to Romania in a ceremony conducted by Secretary of State Colin Powell. At Guest's side was his partner of six years, Alex Nevezre, a teacher, who has accompanied Guest to Romania. Powell ac-

knowledged their relationship in his remarks. The 43-year-old career diplomat is only the second openly gay person to serve as a U.S. ambassador.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is still the rule for the military, but the brass seems to be getting serious about training people to enforce it equitably; that's a step in the right direction. The Bush administration has made it quietly clear to commanders that they do not want to see anti-gay harassment blow up in the press and the best way to prevent bad press is to end the harassment.



Senator Jim Jeffords

The Senate changed hands in June when Jim Jeffords (R-Vermont) became an independent and voted with the Democrats to organize that body. It was the first time in history that such a switch occurred during a legislative year.

A political firestorm erupted in July when the *Washington Post* reported that the White House had made a "firm commitment" to revise regulations to allow the Salvation Army and other religious groups to practice hiring discrimination against gays when using federal funds. The administration denied the report and the Salvation Army later said it must have misunderstood. Regardless of who really said what, the effort was quashed.

The Salvation Army flap was tied in with Bush's faith-based initiative, which was rammed through the House later that month by the Republican leadership. The bill contained a provision that would exempt religious organizations from complying with state and local civil rights laws when they hire staff under contracts to provide social services. It would apply to federal, state, and local funds.

A revolt of House Republican moderates was headed off only when conservative Representative J.C. Watts (R-Oklahoma), the lead sponsor of the bill, promised to "more clearly address this matter [of a religious exemption] in conference" with the Senate. He indicated that the Senate version of the legislation likely will not include this language and the House will accept that. The Democratic Senate has yet to address the initiative.

The religious right was able to get some of its pet anti-gay provisions adopted by Congress, such as an affirmation of the Boy Scouts of America. But its successes were largely symbolic, and few had any real teeth. And social conservatives lost a big one in September as the nine-year effort to block implementation of domes-

tic partner legislation in Washington, D.C. crumpled in a House vote of 226 to 194.

In the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks, New York Governor George Pataki issued an executive order that included gay and lesbian partners as qualifying for survivor benefits and other government programs. Initial comments on issues of fairness indicate that Kenneth R. Feinberg, appointed as special master to distribute \$11 billion in federal funds, will adopt a similar inclusive standard.

Three arch-nemeses decided to take a powder. Senator Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina) announced in August that he would not seek re-election, and House Majority Leader Dick Armey (R-Texas), he of "Barney Fag" fame, did the same in December. Pat Robertson's resignation from the Christian Coalition came in early December between those two political bookends. Both he and Jerry Falwell had earned the antipathy of most Americans when they tried to blame the September 11 terrorist attacks on gays and liberals.

Maryland became the 12th state to pass a gay civil rights bill, in May. Members of the religious right began a petition effort to send it to a voter referendum, but gay rights advocates found that they violated the legal process in gathering those signatures, and the law took effect in November. Approximately 40 percent of Americans are now covered by similar state or local ordinances.

Texas passed a hate crimes act. California passed domestic partners legislation that confers many of the benefits of marriage to same-sex partners. Vermont's experiment with gay "civil unions" continues to be carried out as people adjust to that new reality.

Three anti-gay ballot measures in Michigan went down to defeat in the November elections, while one barely passed in Houston, and two pro-gay measures breezed through in Miami Beach. Another anti-gay petition failed to qualify in Miami and some of the leaders of that effort are being investigated for violation of election regulations.

Republican candidates for major office whose campaigns were tainted by anti-gay activities were routed in off-year elections in Virginia and New Jersey, putting another nail in the coffin of that failed tactic. The poor showing contributed to the departure of Governor Jim Gilmore from the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee after only a year in that position. His successor is Marc Racicot, who had a record of inclusiveness on gay issues as former governor of Montana.

The number of gay and lesbian elected officials continues to grow incrementally. Democrat Cathy Woolard pulled in 55 percent of the vote citywide to defeat the son of local legend Julian Bond to become the first woman and the first openly gay person elected Atlanta City Council president. In New York City, re-elected councilman Phil Reed is maneuvering to be chosen by his peers in January as speaker of that body. ▼

Year in review: Community

analysis by Bob Roeher

[Editor's note: This week we look back on 2001 from a national perspective. Next week's issue will focus on the Bay Area.]

The event of the year for all Americans was the terrorist attacks of September 11. Gays and lesbians were apparent in every aspect of the tragedy, from heroes like Mark Bingham on United Flight 93 that crashed

AIDS dissidents

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the erosion of civil liberties, and they always start with the most unpopular people first."

The open letter likened Pasquarelli and Petrelis' bail to that of ACT UP/Philadelphia member Kate Sorenson, who was slapped with numerous felony and misdemeanor charges and held on \$1 million bail for her participation in protests during the Republican National Convention in August 2000. Sorenson was later cleared of all but one misdemeanor count. The letter also cited felony charges brought against members of ACT UP/New York who stormed GlaxoSmithKline's offices this past February to protest AIDS drug prices.

But others argue that the current case is not about the civil liberties of activists. "Civil liberties would be at stake if [Pasquarelli and Petrelis] were in jail for the content of their speech," said Ellen Goldstein of UCSF, who has been on the receiving end of their calls. "But they are not in jail for their opinions or their right to have their opinions, but rather for harassment and violence. The calls they made were intended to intimidate and put fear into people; they were not about trying to argue a point."

Delaney, Ciasullo, and Goldstein are members of AIDS Activists Against Violence and Lies; a letter from that group demanding "full prosecution of Pasquarelli, Petrelis, and their collaborators" was printed in the B.A.R. on November 15. ▼

Our Man Friday

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Ona's; Joe Bannon; Sue Bierman; Chris Bowman; John Gullotto; Jeff Getty; Cecil Williams & Janice Mirikitani; Frank Jordan & Wendy Paskin; Dick Hongisto; Mike & Denise Koppel; Lily Tomlin; Randy Winbigler; Bill Brown; Mark Gotstein; Marcus Conant; Gardner Pond & Ed Emond; Dick Deemer; Michael Greer; Sharon McNight; my friends at The Transfer bar; John Heilmann; Art Torres; George Kohn; Mark Luka; Paul Melbostadt; Hank Plante; Tom Horn; Tom Soucie; Lillian Sing; Duke Smith; Scott Shafer; Dave Tussey; Mabel Teng; Arlo Smith; Todd Dickinson; Wilkes Bashford; Theresa Sparks; Tim Armour; Donna Sachet; Greg Bronstein; Chris Cunnie & everyone at the POA; Bob Ross; Cynthia Laird, and the wonderfully loyal gang at the Bay Area Reporter; and so many others that I've forgotten but care about. Happy holidays and a healthy New Year. ▼

in western Pennsylvania to survivors like Peg Neff who lost her partner of 18 years in the Pentagon attack. Those stories played out in the gay media but often sexual orientation never made it into the straight press' versions of those stories.

The Human Rights Campaign continues to be the largest and most solid of the national organizations. Elizabeth Birch decided to stay on a few more years after rumors circulated that she was considering retiring. The organization's plans to build a headquarters building near Dupont Circle shifted to purchasing and renovating an existing structure in the same block. Those activities should be completed next year.

Log Cabin Republicans found themselves with increased access to the Bush administration and attracted more resources to grow their small staff. Their principle value, both to the administration and to the community, has been as a tripwire to avoid inadvertent anti-gay actions. Failures, such as the Salvation Army flap, have only

served to reinforce their message of inclusion and they are now more strongly positioned for a proactive agenda.

The Republican Unity Coalition, organized by presidential friend Charles Francis, held an inaugural bash and then largely disappeared from public view. The coalition's purpose was to work behind the scenes within the Republican Party and the administration to foster a more pro-gay environment. It is difficult to tell if it is doing that.

Elizabeth Toledo resigned as executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force after only a year on the job, continuing a tradition of turmoil in that venerable organization. Lorri Jean, former director of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center, took over in midyear and has been remaking the staff and board of directors along more pragmatic lines.

The National Association of People With AIDS continues its solid advocacy, hampered by limited resources. The AIDS Action

Activism seems reduced to two nodes: ACT UP/Philadelphia which has come to focus on international issues; and ACT UP/San Francisco, the renegade group that has gone off the deep end with one of its leaders sitting in jail on harassment charges.

The gay media further consolidated. The dot-com implosion left a merged PlanetOut.com and Gay.com under single ownership, but original content has shrunk dramatically with budget and staff cuts.

In May, Window Media swallowed the Washington Blade and its sister publication, New York Blade News to add to their publications in Atlanta and Houston. The multimillion dollar deal may have caused some financial indigestion that has yet to play out. Partially in reaction to that purchase, Rivendell Marketing purchased Q Syndicate, a content provider for the gay press, and cobbled together a one-stop research, marketing, PR, and advertising alliance for companies to reach the gay community. ▼



NGLTF's Lorri Jean

Council continued to unravel under interim leadership until Hattie Udall took over as executive director in the fall. Many local AIDS service organizations were already facing long term erosion of financial support, which was made worse with the September 11 appeals that sucked up many financial contributions.

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Mark Bingham's former neighbors dedicate a bench in his honor

by Ed Walsh

Mark Bingham's former neighbors in the South Bay are honoring the United Flight 93 hero with a granite bench and flagpole in the neighborhood where he lived as a teenager.

Last Saturday, December 15, a ceremony to dedicate the memorial was held outside a community meeting hall in Redwood Estates, south of Los Gatos. The event was attended by about three dozen of Bingham's former neighbors and several relatives, including Bingham's mother, Alice Hoglan.

The memorial included music, a potluck dinner, and much laughter as people fondly recounted their memories of Bingham. The most emotional moment undoubtedly came during the playing of the national anthem. Hoglan fought back tears as she held her hand over her heart looking up at the flag dedicated to her son's memory.

The granite bench is in place in the yard behind the Redwood Estates Pavilion. It has the following inscription framed by color drawings of redwood trees and a waving American flag: "Mark Bingham — May 22, 1970—September

11, 2001. Mark made his home in Redwood Estates from 1983-88. As a teenager he grew up among the redwoods, loved his friends and neighbors in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Mark lost his life while helping defend America from a terrorist attack on September 11. Redwood Estates Honors his memory."

In recognition of Bingham's love of sports, the left legs of the bench show basketball going into a hoop and a rugby player kicking a ball. The right legs are inscribed with three phrases: "Fourth of July," "Tug-of-War," and "Wheelbarrow Races."

"He organized a Fourth of July party here for us once," Hoglan explained. "We had a three-legged race, a wheelbarrow race."

"Some of the neighborhood kids got ahead of themselves and jumped into the mud pit before we had the tug-of-war. I remember we spent about three hours digging the mud out of everybody's ears. It was dreadful but we had a great time and Mark was there and it meant a lot to me."

"Redwood Estates has been really wonderful for my son," added Hoglan with a broad smile.

A granite plaque was also dedicated to the memory of Bingham and to "all the souls whose lives

were lost or changed on September 11, 2001."

Bingham's eighth grade teacher, June Sythe, fondly recalled Bingham's eagerness to help others in a computer class she taught.

"Mark was someone I could depend on," she said. "He would help someone else while I was busy with another student."

Bingham, 31, is believed to have been among a heroic group of passengers who turned the tables on hijackers, forcing them to miss their intended target, thought to be the U.S. Capitol building or possibly the White House. The plane crashed in an empty field in Pennsylvania. One of the terrorists is believed to have forced the plane into the ground after he heard the passengers breaking into the cockpit door.

Bingham graduated from Los Gatos High School. Another hero

aboard that flight, Todd Beamer, 32, also graduated from Los Gatos High after moving to the area in his senior year. Beamer is often quoted for his phrase "let's roll," announcing to others that it was time to go ahead with their plans to fight back. Beamer lived in New Jersey.

In another coincidence, the chairperson of the memorial, Karen Johnson, shares the same birthday, May 22, 1970, with Bingham. Johnson said she didn't realize it until after she set the date for the memorial and was preparing a press release for a local paper. Johnson said that although she never met Bingham or his mother before she started fundraising for the memorial, she felt compelled to do something. Her former high school classmate, Kevin Rux, was killed last year on the USS Cole and her husband is active in the Air Force Reserves at Travis Air Force Base.

Bingham owned a public relations company with offices in New York and San Francisco. As a University of California, Berkeley graduate, he was an avid Cal Bears fan. He played for the San Francisco Fog, which bills itself as the first rugby club in the western United States established to invite members from traditionally underrepresented groups including gays and people of color. Bingham said the team made him finally feel accepted for the first time as both a gay man and rugby player.

Bingham will likely soon have a memorial in San Francisco. The San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission reviewed last month a proposal to rename the Eureka Valley Recreation Center in Bingham's honor. Barring community opposition, final approval for the name change could come as soon as January. ▼

TAC prevails in South African AIDS treatment lawsuit

by Liz Highleyman

On Friday, December 14, Judge Chris Botha of the Pretoria High Court ordered the South African government to offer the drug nevirapine (Viramune) to pregnant women in an effort to reduce mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

The order is the outcome of a lawsuit filed last August by the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), the Children's Right Center, and Dr. Haroon Saloojee of the University of Witwatersrand against South Africa's National Department of Health and several provincial health ministers. The plaintiffs demanded that the government make nevirapine available in an effort to reduce mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

The order is the outcome of a lawsuit filed last August by the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), the Children's Right Center, and Dr. Haroon Saloojee of the University of Witwatersrand against South Africa's National Department of Health and several provincial health ministers. The plaintiffs demanded that the government make nevirapine available through the public health system, and that the government develop a comprehensive, national plan to prevent perinatal HIV transmission.

The government plans to appeal the decision.

South Africa's current policy, which only provides nevirapine at 18 pilot sites, is "an unjustifiable barrier to the progressive realization of the right to health care," said Botha. "[A] countrywide [mother-to-child transmission]

prevention program is an ineluctable obligation of the state."

Studies have shown that nevirapine can reduce the rate of mother-to-child HIV transmission by as much as 50 percent. Unlike AZT, which also reduces perinatal transmission, nevirapine only has to be taken by the woman once during pregnancy and once by the infant. Boehringer Ingelheim, which manufactures nevirapine, has agreed to provide the drug for free. According to Saloojee, "Potentially this [decision] is going to save the lives of 50,000 babies next year."

The South African government claimed that the drug had not been proven safe and effective, and that it did not have the resources to provide nevirapine to all HIV-positive pregnant women without paralyzing its public health system. Nevirapine is associated with side effects that in rare cases can be life-threatening; however, both the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the United Nations AIDS program maintain that nevirapine's drug's benefits outweigh its risks.

In his 72-page ruling, Botha ordered the government to make nevirapine available, as appropriate, to all pregnant women who use the country's public health services and to prepare a national mother-to-child transmission prevention plan by March 31, 2002.

In a statement released after the ruling was handed down, government officials questioned whether the state was obligated to comply with the verdict, suggesting that Botha may not have the authority to rule on executive policy decisions. The statement went on to say that the government plans to wait for the results of its ongoing 18-clinic pilot study, which reaches about 10 percent of the country's pregnant women. The government has 15 working days to appeal Botha's decision.

"This is a tremendous victory for HIV-positive women in South Africa and for a new generation of South Africans who will be given the opportunity to live free of the disease," said Karyn Kaplan, HIV/AIDS Program Officer at the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

"We firmly hold the view that whilst there is value in saving the child's life, there is equal value in saving, prolonging, and improving the mother's life and father's life," said TAC national secretary Mark Heywood. "We don't want to save the lives of children, only to have a generation of orphans." ▼

Salvation Army

◀ page 1

to set employee benefits and limiting coverage to spouses and dependent children. As a result, the local Salvation Army is not offering the benefits.

While local PFLAG members applaud the western Salvation Army leaders for their decision, they said they cannot support the organization as a whole.

"The Western Division did try to follow local and state regulations but then national shot them down. So on the one hand we commend the Western Division but we cannot support the whole organization because of their discriminatory policies," said Rita Kresha, vice president of the Oak-

land/East Bay chapter.

At the San Francisco PFLAG chapter's meeting Sunday, December 16, the protest bills were a "hot item" said chapter co-chair Julia Thoron.

"The people at the Salvation Army are good people. They work hard; they do a lot of good in the community," Thoron said. "But they need to have better employee policies for their GLBT workers."

The protest has not had a huge financial impact on either the local or national levels said spokespersons for the Salvation Army.

"We have only gotten 10 in the kettles at the Safeway store on Market Street. And at the Safeway in the Marina, the people there told us not only are they not get-

ting the bills, they are getting very supportive people saying 'We know what you do in San Francisco and we appreciate it,'" said Judy Vaughn, a spokeswoman for the Salvation Army in San Francisco.

Conservative groups have rallied to support the Salvation Army and have pledged to match every protest bill dropped in the kettles with a real \$5 bill. The national conservative group, Concerned Women for America, is urging its supporters to not only donate to the charity, but also drop supportive notes into the kettles.

"The Salvation Army will pay a heavy price as liberals begin to assail them for their biblical stand in favor of marriage and family. We must rally to their support," Sandy Rios, president of Concerned Women, told the Associated Press. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Harass case

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meanor harassment.

Pasquarelli, a member of ACT UP/San Francisco, was arrested on one count of felony conspiracy, two counts of felony stalking, four counts of felony terrorist threats, three counts of misdemeanor harassment, and two counts of violating a restraining order, also misdemeanors.

The men were arrested November 28 as they exited another courtroom where a hearing was held on civil restraining orders against them. They have denied the criminal charges, and have stated that while some calls were made, they never threatened anyone, spoke to children, or placed bomb threats, as alleged by the *Chronicle*.

Three witnesses testified last week. All work for DPH and recounted various incidents where they received phone calls or faxes from Petrelis or Pasquarelli that they considered threatening, harassing, and obscene. Tape recordings of the phone calls were played in court.

Eileen Shields, public information officer for DPH, testified that on October 29 she received a call from Petrelis in which he asked, "Do you have a penis in your mouth performing oral sex?"

"I was stunned, shocked," Shields told the court of her reaction to the call. "I just said, 'My God, Michael' and hung up."

Shields, who told the court that she has spoken with Petrelis and Pasquarelli on numerous occasions over the years, said that this time, there seemed to be an escalation in their calls.

She told the court of a call she received from Pasquarelli in which he revealed that he knew her home address and phone number.

"I was furious," she said. Days later, she said, she received an e-mail in which her home phone number and address were listed. "It asked people to come to my house, to call me, [and said] that I was spreading lies about gay men. I was very frightened because it was a new level for ACT UP. It never involved my home. This ramping up ... was frightening," Shields testified.

She told the court that she feared for her safety and would repeatedly look around her neighborhood for the men when she arrived home from work. On one occasion she received a phone call just after getting home. "I was worried perhaps he was near my house," she said.

Shields, who lives alone, testified that the calls affected her concentration at work and that she even advertised for a roommate. "I would look over my shoulder a lot," she said.

There were more calls, Shields said, including one from Pasquarelli in which he asked her if she was a Nazi, and ranting that gays would not be "cooked in the chamber" and that Shields would be quarantined if she didn't "stop spreading lies."

On cross-examination, Mark Vermeulen, Pasquarelli's attorney, asked Shields if the men did things to her house.

"No," she replied.

Stuart Blumstein, Petrelis' attorney, asked when she filed the police report. Shields said she called police on November 12.

Next witness

Dr. Willi McFarland, an epidemiologist with DPH, was the next witness. He testified that as far back as June 2000 the men said they were watching him.

On November 7, 2001, McFarland said, Petrelis called his home

and his wife answered. He asked over and over again if McFarland had syphilis. Petrelis called again, McFarland testified, and his 9-year-old daughter picked up the phone. "She said, 'It's Michael Petrelis and he asked for you,'" McFarland said.

More calls came to his home, McFarland said, and his wife and daughter became very upset.

At the November 8 meeting of the HIV Prevention Planning Council, McFarland said he was giving a presentation. Petrelis and Pasquarelli were there. Petrelis kept walking around closely behind McFarland, and Pasquarelli handed him a swastika.

"I took it as a sign they were going to continue," McFarland said. Late at night he got a call from Petrelis accusing him of "inciting violence against gay men."

His daughter became more upset, saying she was afraid they were going to come to the house and start crying at night, McFarland testified. He too, called police and filed a report.

On cross-examination, Blumstein asked McFarland if Petrelis ever touched him at a public meeting. "Yes, he has," McFarland said.

McFarland testified that at a Board of Supervisors committee hearing in August 2000, Petrelis placed his hand on McFarland's shoulder and said, "I'll see you soon."

McFarland testified that at a Board of Supervisors committee hearing in August 2000, Petrelis placed his hand on McFarland's shoulder and said, "I'll see you soon."

Klausner takes stand

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, head of DPH's sexually transmitted disease unit, was the third witness. He testified that he has been on the receiving end of phone calls from Petrelis and Pasquarelli for years. He told the court that he received a phone call from Pasquarelli on October 26 demanding the number of syphilis tests given in San Francisco for 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001.

"We can do this the easy way or the hard way, when members of ACT UP/SF come down to visit," Pasquarelli said in a taped phone message to Klausner that Hoctor played in court.

"I was scared," Klausner testified. He recounted an earlier incident two years ago when ACT UP/SF members allegedly came to his office and "terrorized my staff and vandalized the office with graffiti."

"The number of tests was not something I could provide," Klausner said. "They were latching on to something impossible."

He said that never, in the years he has worked in the city, had the men called him at home until recently. Like McFarland, Klausner said that his wife picked up the phone to hear Petrelis ranting about "syphilitic dicks" and be-

were not physically violent.

"However, I know he [Katz] tries to gloss things over," Klausner said.

Regarding a comment about quarantine of gay men that was attributed to Klausner in a recent *Washington Monthly* article, he said that the writer paraphrased the discussions.

"I did not specifically raise the issue of quarantine," Klausner said.

"Did you ever request clarification or a retraction?" Vermeulen asked.

Klausner also testified that the calls from the activists stopped after they were served with temporary restraining orders. ▼



Dr. Jeffrey Klausner

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David Pasquarelli faces more charges

by Cynthia Laird

ACT UP/San Francisco member David Pasquarelli, already facing numerous felony and misdemeanor charges in connection with his alleged harassment and threats against health officials and members of the media, faces nine new charges stemming from alleged harassment of officials at the University of California, San Francisco.

Pasquarelli was arraigned Friday, December 14 on four felony counts of criminal threats and five counts of misdemeanor obscene and threatening calls. He pleaded not guilty. Bail was set at \$100,000.

On Monday, December 17, Pasquarelli's attorney argued for a bail reduction. That motion was denied by Superior Court Judge Lucy McCabe, according to Fred Gardner, spokesman for the District Attorney's office. Pasquarelli remains in custody in the San Francisco County jail. ▼



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A call to action

by Blake and Rachel

Since September 11, there has been a lot of talk about the stance of the queer community on the social and political issues that have resulted. But what positions do queer youth take on these issues?

The overwhelming turnout of queer youth in anti-war groups shows that we are concerned about our rights, the rights of others, and what is being carried out in our name as a result of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. One of the major factors spawning this interest in activism is fear of a sudden imposition of the values of the "moral majority" on our open community. While it seems that many of the earlier generations are accepting this in the interest of national unity, the lack of complacency among queer youth prevents us from readily conforming to this trend. With the wounds of our alienation still fresh, we find ourselves willing to be separate from the majority of the nation once again. Failing to yield to blind patriotism, we naturally gravitate toward a position of action.

"First they came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up, because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time there was no one left to speak for me."

— Reverend Martin Niemoller, 1945

We live in a progressive area with a healthy attitude toward diversity and individuality. Queer youth appreciate the LGBT rights movements, as well as all other human rights movements, that have brought us to this stage. While we have made great gains in this respect, we realize that we have much left to accomplish and uphold.

Likewise, the democracy in which we live is at a point at which we can either move toward greater freedom or regress, slowly watching our liberties disappear. We have recently won rights for domestic partners of city employees; yet if the younger generation wants to enjoy this benefit, we must closely examine how other

progressive laws — medical marijuana and assisted suicide, for example — are being overridden by the current administration. We, as states and communities, have expressed our values through the democratic process, only to watch these values crumble when confronted by officials such as John Ashcroft who represents the moral majority.

Blind patriotism, stemming from well-founded fear, facilitates draconian measures. We mourn the victims of September 11, both queer and otherwise; however, we must recognize the latitude that the administration derives from this event and the resulting fear that overwhelms our country. This war is a mechanism activated to further the Bush agenda: upholding the right to profit above all individual rights,

challenging state resolutions contrary to the beliefs of conservatism, and enacting measures which compromise our civil liberties in order to provide "security." An example is the PATRIOT Act, as well as many recent executive orders. These actions by our government will continue unless we speak out now and make our voices heard.

One result of restrictions on dissent will be further alienation of queer youth. While we attempt to stand in solidarity as a nation, we must also reach out to and stand in solidarity with our Arab American and Muslim sisters and brothers. The queer youth community can identify with the ostracism that this community now faces. We should lift our voices and hands daily in efforts to protect any marginalized elements

within our society, despite our fear. ▼

Black, 20, and Rachel, 21, are Georgia transplants and students at San Francisco State University. To find out about writing a future "Generation Q" column, which appears in conjunction with the Bay Area Reporter and LYRIC, please e-mail Ned_the_red@yahoo.com. All lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, intersex, queer, and questioning people age 25 and under are welcome to join the group of writers. No experience is required. All that is required is a different experience and the will to tell it. Because of the age of some of the writers or the fact that they may not be out to their families or face other circumstances, the authors of this column may only be identified by their first names.



Generation Q

Games drug companies play: Marketing hep C medication

by Bob Roehr

Rhetorical fireworks exploded at a meeting of the FDA Antiviral Drugs Advisory Committee on December 12 near Washington, D.C. Its stated purpose was to discuss the post-marketing clinical study of the drugs PEG-Intron (interferon) and Rebetol (ribavirin) made by Schering-Plough to treat hepatitis C. An unstated purpose was to let the community air grievances against the way the company is marketing the drugs.

A particularly contentious issue is the access registration program initiated by Schering. Many contend that it requires the patient to reveal personal medical information that the company has no need to know.

"This program was purposefully designed to skirt those laws [of patient confidentiality] by making the patient contact the company and its representatives directly," charged Brian Klein during

could not refill the prescription unless he had a patient registration number issued by Schering.

Gailey called the registration telephone number but balked at giving them information such as his weight, physician, insurance carrier, and home phone number. He contacted the Nevada Board of Pharmacy.

General counsel Louis Ling told the *Las Vegas Sun* that he was outraged by Schering's demands for private information. "The board is investigating all possible avenues of recourse, including legal action." Its powers over Schering are limited, but it does control a license for McKesson, the company that Schering has contracted with to gather patient information.

Denial of the prescription refill "is an incredibly nasty ploy," said Richard Klein (no relation to Brian), the FDA official who coordinates special health issues surrounding HIV and hepatitis C. But the FDA general counsel feels that the agency does not have legal authority to restrain Schering from implementing a registry program.

"In our view, Schering has pushed the envelope of ethical marketing in a lot of areas," said advisory committee member Dr. Sharlyn Stanley, associate commissioner of the Texas Department of Health. She was among those urging the FDA to look at marketing issues.

Brian Klein, co-founder of the Hepatitis C Action & Advocacy Coalition, called upon the FDA to establish a policy that in the future will require companies to gain agency approval before registration programs are implemented.

Schering's perspective

Company representatives limited their comments to scientific issues at the meeting and did not discuss marketing issues. Later, in a telephone interview, Schering spokesman Robert Consalvo explained that the registration program "was created to allow us to track the actual amount of product being used, to assure it will be available over the full course of the 48-week therapy." Interruption of

treatment might lead to the emergence of drug-resistant virus.

Schering sees "an artificial market" right now because of the backlog of patients who have been waiting for the drug, and "yet another wave of hepatitis awareness" that may come from media coverage. Once this bulge goes through the system and it stabilizes, the risk of not being able to meet patient demand will subside. He suggested that they might do away with the registry at that point.

Consalvo justified the information the company requests. Simply counting the number of patients wouldn't work because PEG-Intron is prescribed by body weight, with four different dosages, he said. The company also fears double counting of patients if they go to different pharmacies. That could lead to unnecessarily putting patients on a waiting list if they cannot guarantee enough drug for the entire course of treatment.

He said the company would call patients only if two conditions occurred: if the supply of drug became tight, bringing the possibility of rationing, and if the patient had not renewed the prescription within the last 60 days, suggesting no further need for the drug.

Patients can elect not to give their telephone number and still get a registration number, said Consalvo, though they run the risk of being discontinued from the program without warning if they do not continue to renew the prescription.

The PEG-Intron/Rebetol combination costs about \$25,000 for the one-year regimen of therapy. Interferon is sometimes used in treating cancer. Because the product is not widely used and is expensive, it is not sitting on most pharmacy shelves but at a limited number of regional distribution centers.

Resistance

Dr. Laurence "Bopper" Dayton is sensitive to the company's "need to have an understanding of what the need is going to be, so that they can assure delivery of the drug to people who need it." But the director of the Veterans

next page ►

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Brian Klein

ing public testimony at the meeting. "I believe it was designed to assure the company quick and free access to patient confidential information in order to ensure itself that it does not manufacture too much Gaia."

Grant Gailey, a Nevada man infected with hepatitis C, was halfway through his 48-week regimen of PEG-Intron when his pharmacist told Gailey that he

OBITUARIES

John G. Sholom
October 18, 1961 —
November 30, 2001



On Friday, November 30, 2001 at Marshal Hale Skilled Nursing Facility (California Pacific Medical Center), John Sholom died of AIDS-related complications. John was surrounded by loving family and friends.

John was born in New York City in 1961. He graduated from Rutgers University in 1984 with a BA Degree in Psychobiology. He moved to San Francisco in 1984, and worked for UCSF for nine years as Administrative Analyst in the Information Technology Services Department.

John was warm, bright, affectionate and witty. He loved travel, adventure, the outdoors, dancing, photography and humor. He was equally comfortable with intellectuals and club-goers. He was a compassionate man, who ministered to the needs of many friends who left before him. John left many devoted friends and family on the east and west coasts, Europe and Australia. He

touched many lives and will be greatly missed. He is survived by loving parents, two brothers and a sister.

Joe Thatcher

Joseph G. Thatcher passed away suddenly of a heart attack on December 16, 2001 at age 47. His life blossomed most when he cared for others. He had a brilliant mind and was a wealth of

knowledge and help for those who knew him. He was a staunch patient advocate, at ease with patients, and a former AIDS-case manager at Harvard HCHP.

He received his Masters Degree from Mass General Hospital School of Nursing. Joe came to San Francisco in the mid-nineties to work at Kaiser in AIDS research. Joe worked until his death in anal dysplasia studies at UCSC. He was a warm, generous human being who will be deeply missed by those fortunate enough to have experienced his heart.

He is survived by all those who came to love, respect and care for his deep sensitivity and healing manner towards

any type of suffering. A memorial gathering will be held December 19, 2001. Call Debra at 387-2333 for directions. Donations in his name can be sent to Clinica Esperanza HIV Clinic, MNHC, 240 Shotwell St., San Francisco 94110.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Porn star Ron Pearson dies at 42

by Cynthia Laird

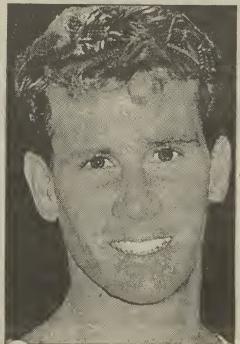
Ron Pearson, who enjoyed a successful porn career in the 1980s, died Monday, December 10 of complications due to advanced HIV disease. He was 42.

Mr. Pearson died at home surrounded by his family and friends. He had only been sick for the last two months, friends said.

Born in Berkeley and raised in Pleasant Hill, California, Mr. Pearson spent half of his high school years in Belgium and half in Pleasant Hill, in the East Bay. He moved to his beloved San Francisco in 1978 just in time to take part in the rise of the city's gay culture.

Mr. Pearson was not only a porn star in the 1980s, but was also the producer and director of Celsius Productions. After being discovered at an Endup jock-strap contest in 1980, Mr. Pearson went on to star in or produce 14 movies, including *Pegasus*, *Night Flight*, *J. Brian's Flashbacks*, *Style Pegasus II*, *Bad Habits*, *Hard to Believe*, and *Sights*.

Mr. Pearson had a wide array



Porn star Ron Pearson

of hobbies and interests. An avid traveler, he visited no less than 54 countries on every continent except Antarctica. In recent years, he enjoyed touring around America for months at a time in his custom-tailored RV. Other favorite pastimes included entertaining family and friends, scuba diving, stamp and coin collecting, and spending summers at the Russian River. Mr. Pearson was also a

member of the Freewheelers car club, a gay group dedicated to vintage automobiles.

Mr. Pearson is survived by four sisters – Jennifer, Susie, Sandy, and Sherry – five nephews, one niece, and the joys of his life – his two dogs, Shannon and Smoky.

Friends said that Mr. Pearson was an individual in every sense of the word, and that he left an impression on those he met. Fiercely independent, he had a master plan for his life and seldom veered from it, they added.

A memorial service for Mr. Pearson will be held today (Thursday, December 20) at the San Francisco Columbarium, located at 1 Lorraine Court, off of Anza Street between Stanyan and Arguello Boulevard.

A larger, fun-filled celebration of Mr. Pearson's life is being planned for Saturday, January 5, 2002. For more information about that event, call Scott Dowdee at (415) 864-7850.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Mr. Pearson's name to Pets Unlimited (415-563-6700), your local hospice, or the charity of your choice. ▼

Celebrate a family Kwanzaa next week

by Katie Szymanski

It may be a relatively new holiday, but it is an American holiday at its best: Kwanzaa, born here in California in 1966, honors African American culture and is celebrated from December 26-January 1.

This year, the gay-friendly Bay Area Discovery Museum will be hosting its fourth annual Kwanzaa festival on Wednesday, December 26. The event is one of many free cultural days at the museum and runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Kids in attendance will have the opportunity to make Mkeka (woven mats) and Kinara candleholders to be used in ritual celebration. Families are invited to make Kinara candles, each of which symbolize one of Kwanzaa's seven principles (unity, self determination, collective responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith). Traditional African performers will entertain the crowds, and African drummers will be found playing throughout the museum.

Originally started by teen in-

terns and youth leaders from the Bay Area, the Discovery Museum's Kwanzaa event is made possible by the Fireman's Fund Foundation and the Marin Community Foundation.

The museum is a hands-on interactive science and art outlet that features permanent exhibitions and ongoing workshops and educational programs. It is located at Fort Baker in Sausalito, just across the Golden Gate Bridge in Marin County. For more information, call (415) 487-4398 or visit www.badm.org. ▼

Hepatitis C

◀ previous page

Administration programs for HIV and hepatitis C feels that Schering was going too far in its quest for private medical information.

"It is illegal for us to release medical information to a non-VA source," said Deyton. "Fortunately in the VA, I had a law that I was able to turn to and say, either you are going to sell us the drug in a way that we are not going to violate the law, or we are not going to

buy it. And since we are the largest single purchaser of the drug, they are doing it our way." The VA will provide Schering with gross numbers of patients but will completely protect individual patients.

Other large users find that they have similar power. Dr. Fred Maue, chief of clinical services for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, said, "We are going to assign arbitrary [identification] numbers to our inmates," and pass aggregated data on to Schering.

In the state where Schering is headquartered, the New Jersey

Board of Pharmacy began an inquiry into the marketing practices at its December 12 meeting. Board spokeswoman Beth Rosenberg said they were concerned about privacy issues and expected a response from Schering before the board's January meeting.

Schering has initiated lawsuits against two companies that intend to manufacture a generic version of ribavirin when the patent expires. Ribavirin can be used with a variety of brands of interferon to treat hepatitis C. A generic version would cost significantly less. ▼



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Nice package

by Jim Provenzano

All I want for Christmas is ... the nude French rugby calendar!

Oui, oui, those chunky Frenchmen have the Gaul to disrobe once again after the success of their first calendar. You can enjoy the *grande derrières* of the country whose capital city has a gay mayor, and whose athletic community, like that of Brazil and other lands, remains light years ahead of ours in saucy sexy freedoms.

The study gents show their muscled gams and a sense of humor in lighthearted Pierre & Gilles-esque images by Kris Gautier. Some of the group shots are decidedly homoerotic, while a few include gals to remind us consumers that these are presumably heterosexual players. *C'en fais rien*, it's still hot and sporty to moi!

DIEVX DV STADE calendrier 2002 goes for 25 Eurodollars or 163.99 Francs.

To buy the calendar yourself for the holiday created by pagans but appropriated by Christians, polish up your French and visit: <http://boutique.stade.fr/catalogue.asp>

A special stocking stuffed *merci* to the French National Rugby team.

Out and out of it

While my article on the women of the Oakland Banshees pro football team met with mild enthusiasm, there was no controversy that I know of.

The *Sports Illustrated* for

Women article about only one of the league's players being a lesbian has ruffled more feathers, however.

The owner of the National Women's Football League says an out player has "undermined" her marketing scheme for the fledgling league.

When Alissa Wykes of Ben-salem, Pennsylvania, who plays fullback for the Philadelphia Liberty Belles (so far the 2001 National Women's Football League champions) came out publicly in the December/January issue of *Sports Illustrated for Women*, league founder and owner Catherine Masters threw a hissy fit royale, saying an out lesbian is bad for business.

"This is a business, we're new," Masters told *Philadelphia Gay News*. "I want to go after mainstream sponsors. They're concerned with the lily-white thing. Alissa's coming out in a national publication was inappropriate and was certainly more harmful than helpful. I don't know of any major corporation trying to speak to the gay demographic."

Yes, just look at all those sponsors who dropped out of the Emmys since Ellen DeGeneres hosted it. And *Will & Grace* might as well be on PBS. I mean, nobody pays for commercial time on one of the top Emmy-award-winning comedies since *All in the Family*.

Perhaps Ms. Masters should take a look through our publication to find three more players who came out, and mention that the majority of players are out as well. She should also flip through a copy of any glossy gay magazine to see sofa, ciggie, booze, airline, stock investment, auto, and Ikea ads, some even created specifically with hunky guys and gals directly targeted at us, the supposedly rich income-disposing dream market.

Women's football, like any women's sport, has more than a sizable lesbian fan base, as Ms. Masters should realize.

Wykes came out quite clearly in the *SI* article, "Of course I am a lesbian. I've had a partner for six

years, and it's been awesome. I guess you can call this my coming out party."

The magazine's editors got negative e-mails and letters regarding Wykes's coming out. The 5 foot, 6 inch, 230-pound Wykes, nicknamed "A-Train," also says she received a phone call from Masters, who called her "stupid" and a "dyke."

Masters, a Nashville, Tennessee-based businesswoman who has been in entertainment marketing for the past 25 years, formed the NWFL last August. She says she wants to market the women's football league "like the WNBA."

And of course there ain't no lesbians there, and certainly not in entertainment.

"Could you imagine one of those players doing this?" she asked. Yes, three of them did it in this newspaper two weeks ago.

But Masters emphasizes the NWFL is "not a gay or a straight thing; it's about football," and that she is trying to build a league that will attract "the big ones" — sponsors like Pepsi — and provide role models for girls.

Apparently, Ms. Masters thinks heterosexual girls are eager to dive into hard contact sports, and that lesbians don't drink Pepsi.

"There will be a clause in the contract about 'maintaining a level of professionalism' to the public," Masters said. Masters's idea of "professionalism" is cowering in the closet. I bet her favorite movie this season is *Vanilla Sky*.

"I blame myself for not teaching my players how to handle the media better," Masters told PGN. "Poor thing [Wykes] just didn't know how to say 'off the record.'"

And Masters doesn't know how to say, "self-hating homophobic clueless monster" when looking in the mirror. She should blame herself for something.

Goddess forbid a player should



Feliz Navidad: Mssr. Lombard, unwrapped for the holidays.

come out. Who needs role models, specifically the teenage male football player in Pennsylvania who committed suicide after a cop caught him smooching with a pal and threatened to out him. While the grieving mother tried to sue, the outing cop got off scot-free in court earlier this month.

Yes, who needs role models when there are Pepsi contracts to snag, huh?

I hope, for Christmas, Ms. Masters gets what she needs: a clue.

Grinch on wheels

In this season of false good cheer and blatant consumerism, it's nice to see that people aren't spending as much, and that things aren't carrying on as usual.

Pity the poor beleaguered AIDS Ride Inc.

Unsatisfied with its 60 percent-plus profits on AIDS Rides over the past decade, and perhaps going through a booze withdrawal after Tanqueray tanked on sponsoring them, the secretive for-profit company is barring its

legal fangs at the hands that fed them, and fed them plenty.

Pallotta Teamworks has unleashed its army of lawyers on the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center for having the audacity to dump their contract with the highly controversial fundraising company and starting their own fundraising rides.

Like Mafia strong-arm thugs, the Pallottines have threatened anyone who dares do a bike fundraising event, including groups in Florida, Texas, and Hawaii, some of them still smarting from the profit-gouging of the est-inspired cult-like events.

I seem to recall doing bike ride fundraisers in junior high school for muscular dystrophy while Danny boy was still in the closet. You'd think Danny himself invented the bicycle, if not the wheel.

"This retaliatory move by Pallotta Teamworks is taken in response to our refusal to renew a contract with them because of

next page ►

Murder of Florida transgender activist leaves community stunned

by Katie Szymanski

Considering the frequency with which transgender people are murdered in the United States (at an average rate of one per month), it wasn't necessarily surprising that a transgender woman was gunned down outside her Florida home last week. Still, to residents of Jacksonville, and to transgender and genderqueer people nationwide, the slaying of Terrianne Summers was both shocking and tragic, as Summers was not only a well-

known activist but one of the few transgenders in her community brave enough to be visible and outspoken.

Reports indicate that Summers was shot in the back of the head in her driveway while she was getting out of her car on December 12. Police have reportedly leaned toward a robbery motive, despite the fact that her purse was left inside the car and nothing else was missing. There are no known suspects, but friends say she was the frequent victim of verbal harassment in her neighborhood.

Summers, 51, was known throughout the country for her organizing efforts, whether around the womyn-born-womyn policy at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, or in protest of the supermarket Winn-Dixie for firing long-time employee Peter Oiler for cross-dressing when he was off the job.

She was actively pursuing a strategy against Winn-Dixie's policies, and in fact was scheduled to meet about the matter with fellow activist Jessica Archer the day after she was killed.

"She was a friend," said Archer, who works for the anti-discrimination group Equality Florida. "The loss of Terrianne Summers has had a tremendous impact on the Jacksonville community. She



Terrianne Summers

was a role model, a leader, and most of all a very real human being.

"In the wake of her death, the community has organized to ensure justice for Terrianne. We are calling upon the sheriff's office to conduct a vigorous, thorough, and professional investigation and to maintain open lines of communication with the community."

It won't be an easy task, according to Archer, who likens Jacksonville to "part of Georgia," as it is about a 30-minute drive from the border.

"It's a conservative city dominated by the Baptist church and Naval station. We know from first-hand accounts that the police receive paramilitary training that includes the use of anti-gay slurs.

next page ►

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Sports Complex

[◀ previous page](#)

large cost overruns and other serious budgeting and expense improprieties related to this year's California AIDS Ride," said Pat Christen, executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "It is extraordinary that a company that claims to care about people living with AIDS and HIV should try to stop a benefit to provide life-sustaining services to those very same people."

It's also extraordinary that Pat only recognized the pernicious nature of the Pallottines years after my and several other investigative articles pretty much exposed the company for what it is.

In these times of frauds pretending to have died in the World Trade Center attacks, right-wing Log KKKabiners spewing garbled doublespeak in full-page ads claiming that anyone who's not them has lost their focus, and hick policemen threatening to cut gay teenage jocks who end up killing themselves, it seems a lot of people deserve special Grinch awards, and Danny's at the top of my list.

When the going gets tough, the ugly get uglier, no matter what season it is.

My gift to Pallotta Inc. et al is a soul. They can divide it between them. ▼

TG murder

[◀ previous page](#)

That's what we're up against."

The Jacksonville Sheriff's office did not return phone calls from the Bay Area Reporter seeking comment.

Locals from Summer's town have enlisted national support for a complete investigation into her murder, and on December 18, the Washington D.C.-based Human Rights Campaign issued a statement calling on authorities to "investigate the murder of transgender activist Terrianne Summers as a possible hate crime."

The irony of HRC issuing a statement was not lost on some transgender activists, who for years have blasted the organization for not including transgenderers in federal laws that the group tries to push through Congress. HRC's proposed hate crimes bill, however, does include "real or perceived gender," while Florida's law does not. In the event that a suspect is found, according to HRC national field director Seth Kilbourn, a prosecution may have to center around the state's sexual orientation hate crime law.

"Right now there hasn't even been an arrest," said Kilbourn. "Sometimes all you can do is make sure it is acknowledged as a hate crime, and educate the public about the number of people killed for being who they are."

To Archer, HRC's involvement is a welcome development, as national, more mainstream organizations tend to lag behind on transgender concerns.

"We ask, How many deaths are too many? How many people have to die before law enforcement agencies begin to take this seriously? Before human rights language protects all people? How long before all gay and lesbian organizations cover transgender issues with the dignity and respect they deserve?" said Archer.

There have been nine reported transgender murders in Florida since 1984, six of which occurred since 1993.

Summers was reportedly a Navy veteran and is survived by her spouse and two children. ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

REQUEST FOR BIDS

The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (SFRA) invites bids for the YERBA BUENA GARDENS SIGNAGE PROJECT. The project includes new exterior project identification signage with lighting and structural supports. Estimated contract value: \$200,000/225,000. Bids due Wednesday, January 9, 2002 at 2:00 pm. For bid package, call Ara Deronian at (415) 749-2448. Non-compulsory pre-bid meeting on December 13 at 2 pm.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Supervisors for December 24 and 31, 2001 have been canceled.

SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER ASSURANCE

The Dept. of Consumer Assurance protects San Francisco citizens by researching consumer complaints regarding the sale of goods and services sold by weight, count or measure. Consumer protection includes testing scales, price scanners and packaged commodities in retail stores, testing taxicab meters for accuracy, testing gasoline pumps and many other devices. Inspectors regulate quality standards for produce, plants and flowers and complete pest inspections to protect California's billion dollar agriculture crops from diseases. The department protects consumers and businesses from dishonest practices that include fraud, deceptive practices or negligence. The Department also handles insect identification, bee inquiries and provides information about the Alemany Farmers Market and Alemany Antique & Collectibles Market.

Contact the department to report possible fraud relating to weight, count or measure, deceptive packaging or advertising, retail store scanner pricing errors, inaccurate meters, short weight on products, substandard produce or illegal tobacco advertising. A consumer complaint form is available on our website at www.cfa.ca.us/casf or contact us directly with complaints. Help us promote equity in the marketplace in San Francisco!

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WIC PROGRAM

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Supplemental Nutrition Program provides nutrition education, food vouchers, and breastfeeding support for pregnant women, postpartum women, infants, and children younger than five. Vouchers are picked up at a WIC site on a monthly/bimonthly basis and may be exchanged for milk, cheese, eggs, cereal, juice, peanut butter/beans, and infant formulas in most grocery stores. All WIC services are free of charge. For more information, please call (415) 554-9667.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253138

The following person(s) are doing business as S.F. Wizard 4032 19th St. San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Peter E. Warner. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11-01-01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/20/2001.

NOV. 29, DEC. 6, 13, 20, 2001

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540054

In the Matter of the Application of Kathleen Jean McMahon For change of Name. The application of Kathleen Jean McMahon for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Kathleen Jean McMahon has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Kathleen Jean McMahon-Kelly. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 17th day of January, 2002; at 9:00am, of said day to show why the application for change of name should not be granted.

NOV. 29, DEC. 6, 13, 20, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252027

The following person(s) are doing business as Maestro Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning, 122 Oldsmar Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Timothy Mark Nava. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11-09-01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/28/2001.

DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

••HAPPY HOLIDAYS••

FROM B.A.R.

Ad deadlines for the weeks of Xmas and New Years. Issue date Dec 27, 2001. Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001. Issue date Jan. 3, 2002: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001. Have a very festive year 2002!!!

DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253321

The following person(s) are doing business as Victory Man Productions, 35 Hollis Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael B. Sigmund. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 3, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/03/01.

NOV. 29, DEC. 6, 13, 20, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253234

The following person(s) are doing business as SoulWind, 329 Church Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114-1718. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Mark Green. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11-15-01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/29/2001.

DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS OR CITATION

CASE NUMBER: FL 043020

Notice to respondent Guy Moreaux. You are being sued. Petitioner's name is: Francis Ribisi. You have 30 Calendar Days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form 1282) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter or phone call will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. If you want legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Notice: The restraining orders on the back are effective against both husband and wife until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. These orders are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them. The name and address of the court is: San Francisco Superior Court 400 McAllister Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. The name, address, and telephone number of petitioner's attorney, or petitioner without an attorney: Carole S. Culkin, SBN 114743 45 Polk Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. 415-863-5300.

DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253647

The following person(s) are doing business as NVI Investments, 1215 Filbert Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a general corporation, signed John Henry Kouba, NVI Investments. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 2, 1983. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/12/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253273

The following person(s) are doing business as Hot 19, 407 Castro Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Daniel Ian Glazer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 1-17-97. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/30/2001.

DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253364

The following person(s) are doing business as Ian Hayes Services, 1020 Anza Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Ian Hayes. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on November 5, 01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/05/2001.

DEC. 13, 20, 27, JAN 3, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253325

The following person(s) are doing business as Fitness With Jee, 3212-14 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual, signed James M. Washington (JMW). The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 3, 01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/03/2001.

DEC. 13, 20, 27, JAN 3, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253267

The following person(s) are doing business as Spot & Clean Janitor, 455 Bartlett Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Maria Elisa Palma. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on June 5, 1986. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/29/2001.

DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253261

The following person(s) are doing business as: Wao Tang Huang Management, 1018 Powell Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Wao Tang Huang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11-29-01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/29/2001.

DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253266

The following person(s) are doing business as: Zinzino, 2355 Chestnut Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Pegasus Restaurant Corporation, Giulio Palma, CEO. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/20/2001.

DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253261

The following person(s) are doing business as: Aliso, 1575 Indiana Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107-3529. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed James Hyland Vice President, Steiner Corporation (Nevada). The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/26/2001.

DEC. 13, 20, 27, JAN 3, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253169

The following person(s) are doing business as: Also, 1575 Indiana Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107-3529. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed James Hyland Vice President, Steiner Corporation (Nevada). The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/26/2001.

DEC. 13, 20, 27, JAN 3, 2002

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 211827

The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Everett Janitorial. Located at: 2609 Turk Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: February 26, 1997. This business was conducted by: an individual: Rene L. McLean

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253494

The following person(s) are doing business as: Calvin Lau Design, 2673 Pine Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Calvin Lau. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 11, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/11/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253525

The following person(s) are doing business as Soma Motors, 1601 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a limited liability company, signed Randy Hoffman, Soma Motors LLC, owner. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 12, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/12/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

Holiday ad deadlines are changed for the weeks of Christmas and New Year.

Issue date Dec. 27, 2001: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001

Issue date Jan 3, 2002: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001



DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540091
 In the Matter of the Application of Stephanie Mary Bernstein aka Stephanie Mary Valisevicius, for change of Name. The application of Stephanie Mary Bernstein aka Stephanie Mary Valisevicius for change of name, having filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Stephanie Mary Bernstein filed an application proposing that her name be changed to -Stephanie Mary Infante. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 4th day of February, 2002 at 9:00am., of said day to show why the application for change of name should not be granted.
NOV. 29, DEC. 6, 13, 20, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253542

The following person(s) are doing business as: Home 2100 Market Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed John Hurley. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/12/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002**STATEMENT FILE NO. 253551**

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Pleasure Project, 3435 Cesar Chavez Street, Suite #226, San Francisco, Ca. 94120. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Edwin Eugene Groff. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/13/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002**STATEMENT FILE NO. 253581**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Garden Of Tranquility, 2001 17th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Liao, Guo Wei. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 12, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/12/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002**STATEMENT FILE NO. 253607**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Steve Kay and Jerry, Mr. LIMO, Executive Town Car Service, 2090 Green Street, #35, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Steve Kay. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 10, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/10/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002**STATEMENT FILE NO. 253583**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Mission Creek Printing, 298 Alabama Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Kenneth E. Neal. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 14, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/14/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002**STATEMENT FILE NO. 253616**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Liquid Fire Productions, 135 Eureka Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Veronica C. Combs. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/17/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002**STATEMENT FILE NO. 253177**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Maxfields, 398 Dolores Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual, signed David Peterson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/26/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002**STATEMENT FILE NO. 253218**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Flippers Gourmet Burgers, 482-A Hayes Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Salameh Nasar and Ramzi Faraj. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 8, 1997. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/28/2001.

DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002**JOBS OFFERED****STOP PROJECT SOMA COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**

Is seeking a highly organized, motivated, and creative team player to coordinate and implement an HIV Prevention Program for gay and bisexual men in the SoMa. BA degree and/or equivalent experience. Excellent communication writing and computer skills required. FT with bonus. Send letter, resume and 3 refs. to SCOSC, 2128 15th Street, SF, CA 94114. Fax (415) 575-0165.

Call Andrea at (415) 575-0510, ext. 299 for full job description.

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E02

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E02

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Kona Hawaii private bed/bath. Pool
\$40 single, \$50 couple. 808-325-0990. John • (Nice, Quiet).

E02

WINTER HOLIDAY SPECIALS

Specials for the winter holidays
available now. Call 707-823-2222

E02

Holiday ad deadlines are changed for the weeks of Christmas and New Year.

Issue date Dec. 27, 2001: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001

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CLASSIFIEDS

ROOMMATES

Room/condo/SF, 5 yrs old, 3 bed, 2 ba, plush carpet. Full kitchen, washer/dryer, secure property (private road, house alarm), view Candlestick Park/Bay, quiet household, must see to appreciate, over 25, N/S, N/D. Maximum three males, one bedroom left, no pets. \$725/utl incl. First/Last Dep. Available now. (415) 850-8194

GM seeks same share SF 3BR 2BA WD Deck, EZ park, NS must have trans. \$550+util, avail 01/01 586-9404

~• HAPPY HOLIDAYS ~
FROM B.A.R.

Ad deadlines for the weeks of Xmas and New Years. Issue date Dec 27, 2001: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001. Issue date Jan. 3, 2002: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001. Have a very festive year 2002!!!

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\$500 PM+1/3 util 3rd GM to share fully furn 3B/2BA DW WD Pool & gym in So. SF. N/S N/D. Must like cats. Call Stan (650) 875-2510 after 6PM wkds. Before Noon Sat.

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STUDIO \$850 OAKLAND Grand Lake theater area. Large sunny charming building. Easy access 510-839-2021

~• HAPPY HOLIDAYS ~
FROM B.A.R.

Ad deadlines for the weeks of Xmas and New Years. Issue date Dec 27, 2001: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001. Issue date Jan. 3, 2002: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001. Have a very festive year 2002!!!

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~• HAPPY HOLIDAYS ~
FROM B.A.R.

Ad deadlines for the weeks of Xmas and New Years. Issue date Dec 27, 2001: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001. Issue date Jan. 3, 2002: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001. Have a very festive year 2002!!!

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E51

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CLASSIFIEDS

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E05

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E01

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E02

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E01

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E50

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RATES

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**BAY AREA REPORTER**

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

A CHORUS OF CARING

SF GAY MEN'S CHORUS - 'HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS'



by Adam Sandel

Two things become immediately apparent to a visitor observing a Monday night rehearsal of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus at the Laguna Honda Hospital Auditorium: the warm camaraderie of the chorus members, who range in age from 21 to 77; and the courageous dedication of 100 gay men who spend

three hours every week under the most unflattering institutional lighting imaginable.

But there's a different kind of light at work here as they prepare for their 13th annual Christmas Eve concert, "Home for the Holidays" at the Castro Theatre. Over the years, this event has become a meaningful tradition not only for the chorus, but for the entire gay community.

Scott Mandell, in his third year as Executive Director of the chorus, remembers his first "Home for

the Holidays" experience:

"When I first came to San Francisco in 1990, someone I didn't even know invited me to the concert, saying, 'I do this every year.' I stood in line in the rain and sat up in the balcony and jingled my keys with everyone during 'Jingle Bells.' It was wonderful."

His partner of six years was a chorus member and after he died, Mandell accepted the position of Executive Director to keep that connection alive. "I feel like

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DIRECTOR ĐANIŠ TANOVIC TALKS OF WAR

AN EXPLOSIVE 'NO MAN'S LAND'

"In war, everyone sticks to some belief," says Bosnian expatriate Đaniš Tanovic of his film *No Man's Land*, opening Friday in the Bay Area.



by David Lamble

In 1992 when the Serbs began shelling his native Sarajevo, 23-year-old Đaniš Tanovic took his camera to the local police station, where he picked up a gun. A decade later, on the fourth floor of a San Francisco hotel, the soft-spoken Bosnian expatriate jokes that he's "no Rambo," and that the gun soon found itself in the hands of a pal who needed it to stay alive. For two years — about the time it took much of the world to locate and pronounce Bosnia/Herzegovina — Tanovic and his buddies became a unit of an organization for which there had been no previous need, the Bosnian Army. Tanovic, one of two or three survivors from his original unit, thinks his camera may have kept him alive — he was up-close to the action, often capturing images of death

and destruction that he couldn't bear to look at except through a camera lens.

Tanovic became a prime supplier of combat news footage to the BBC, CNN and other television news organizations, footage he supplied for free: "In war everyone sticks to some belief . . . [I believed] if I sold one shot I wouldn't live long enough to spend [the royalties]."
Tanovic says he would sometimes put down his camera, trading the shot for the chance to assist the wounded.

Two years into the fighting, Tanovic was already an old soldier — weight down to 65 kilos, he and his surviving buddies were getting by on bad cigarettes, bitter coffee and pure adrenaline. He admits they could have easily been mistaken for concentration-camp refugees — he confided to National Public Radio's Terry Gross that two years of sub-freezing temperatures had

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"INTENSELY EROTIC..."
-A.O. Scott, THE NEW YORK TIMES
"A BRAVURA WORK!... A GAY 'BONNIE AND CLYDE'!"
-Kevin Thomas, LOS ANGELES TIMES
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The big news of the night: composer Henry Brant (left) and his Ice Field, ably orchestrated by MTT (right).



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make some uncomfortable stretches to include a few dubious rebels. No amount of explanatory program notes or podium remarks could make anyone seriously believe that Ottorino Respighi (of *Pines and Fountains* and *Rome* fame) was ever a non-establishment figure.

For that matter, calling Claudio Monteverdi a maverick seemed a bit of an eyebrow raiser, too. Maybe pioneering innovative harmonics or making brilliant orchestrations could be counted as eccentric behavior by some, but it was the other two composers on the Italian Mavericks bill who more readily fit the premise.

The real Italian rebels

Luciano Berio has had an international reputation for years and his music might almost be called popular, but he is an eclectic modernist who writes complex and sometimes outrageous music. Still, his scores are always heartfelt and unusually moving.

His famous *Sinfonia* (if you haven't heard it, you must) remains the centerpiece of his output, but he continues to write large and exploratory works. *Epiphanies*, given its first SFS performances two weeks ago, proved to be another deep and rousing showcase for the soprano voice, and also an orchestral tour de force.

Lauren Flanigan brought the house down with her combination of tonal allure and hair-raising theatrics. Tearing through long texts by Proust, James Joyce and Claude Simon, as well as shorter pieces by Brecht, Edoardo Sanguineti and Antonio Machado, Flanigan made an indelible impression. The composer's wife, Cathy Berberian, has recorded the work, but it is no longer available. I would beg the record companies to make a new disc with Flanigan.

The score is almost chamber-like in its use of the large orchestra and the mood is relatively subdued. Nevertheless, I haven't felt this charged by a performance of an experimental work in ages, and I shared the enthusiasm of the audience for Flanigan's bravura star turn.

Giacinto Scelsi's shorter piece, *I presagi* (The Omens) shared the bill, and MTT told another one of his amusing stories about the composer (they knew each other in Rome). The music itself is austere and impressive, sounding for the whole world like Tibetan horns played by giant Buddhist monks. It is beautiful, but it couldn't match the dramatic in-

tensity of Berio's magnificent outpouring.

The evening ended with Respighi's raucous *Roman Festivals*. I didn't like it, but the audience clearly did. Anyway, they deserved some easier listening after braving such a long evening of the unfamiliar with attentiveness and good spirits. We all left the hall feeling tired and happy.

Floating on 'Ice Field'

Last week brought the Pan-American Mavericks to Davies and the results were, once again, mixed, but mostly satisfying. A premiere, another first performance for the SFS, and a potential riot-inducer filled the diverse bill, and MTT again brought it all together with his customary aplomb.

The least lovable piece was Edgard Varese's *Deserts*. It is one of those groundbreaking important works that one feels guilty for not liking, but it is rather mercifully brief. The huge blocks of sound do manage to convey a reflective atmosphere of grim intensity, and Tilson Thomas made a helpful and illuminating statement before the performance. Varese was indeed an uncompromising maverick who could move an audience to open hostility, but MTT pleaded for sympathy and made a convincing case.

The big news of the night was the premiere of Henry Brant's *Ice Field: Spatial Narratives for Large and Small Orchestral Groups*. It is a lot more fun than the title suggests — though the descriptive part is apt. Large and small orchestral groups are scattered throughout the auditorium, and the forces include a rather demoted swing band. The effect is circus-like and often very funny.

The adorably gnome-like composer noodled at the Davies Hall Ruffati pipe organ, wearing a visor to keep the glare from his large eyeglasses, while Tilson Thomas darted and whirled, throwing cues to the disassembled assembled forces. The sounds ran the gamut from brief lyrical turns to silly guttural belches.

Musicians and audience alike were having a high old time and, if there is no thread to bind the work together, *Ice Field* is, literally and nonetheless, a blast. MTT was unfazed by the task before

next page ►

Roberto Friedman and Out
There will return next week.

THEATRE

All mixed up

George Coates' 'The Crazy Wisdom Sho'

by Richard Dodds

The *Crazy Wisdom Sho* is less than the sum of its parts. And what do I mean by that? That individually the disparate components of this theatrical performance piece are often intriguing, and sometimes fascinating, but considered as a whole they seem an odd lot indeed.

Crazy Wisdom is the final production that George Coates Performances Works will present in its Civic Center theater before the former cathedral is closed for retrofitting. In this outing, the mad genius of writer-director Coates is applied to a world where the question of authorship affects even the words that come out of our own mouths.

At one point, a rising politician stares into one of several Teleprompters on stage and says, "My mouth is saying things I don't know anything about." To which a compatriot replies, "That's a leadership skill."

According to the press releases for the production, the Teleprompters are also supposed to feed the performers lines sent in over the Internet, but on opening night it was unclear if this in fact was taking place. This is the kind of show in which it's impossible to tell if a catastrophic technical meltdown has occurred.

For that you can credit the amazing Sara Moore, who commands the seemingly free-wheeling production while playing a character whose 20 personalities can change mid-sentence. Part of the raison d'être for *Crazy Wisdom* is obviously to provide a showcase for Moore, who starred in Coates' production of *Up Your Ass*.

Moore's character is trapped in a place she can't quite grasp, worrying that some unnamed enemy has breached the gates and if one of her personalities may have married an African politician (Babatunde Garaya) who is planning a power grab in his homeland. In the midst of all this, Moore offers a lengthy lecture "proving" that Edward de Vere was the actual author of Shakespeare's great works.

Babatunde Garaya and Sara Moore in *The Crazy Wisdom Sho*

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him — if he can control the symphonies of Ives, why should this have been a problem?

The score is ultimately less than filling, but I would hear it again without hesitation. Besides, a live performance is really the only way to get the composer's intent. Mak-

ing music that is as much about space as the space it is heard in would seem to be what this 88-year-old maverick is all about. *Ice Field* was commissioned for Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony by Other Minds, a San Francisco-based organization devoted to the music of modern mavericks.

A symphonic tango by Astor Piazzolla, *Tangazo* and *Choros No.*

10

by Villa-Lobos made up the second half of the concert and, while both were gorgeous and beautifully performed, they seemed almost an afterthought to the meatier first half.

A concert devoted to both of these remarkable composers would make a satisfying evening in itself, and they do meet all the requirements to be called mavericks. MTT — do you hear us? ▼

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'Ali' packs a punch

Will Smith a knock-out as Muhammad Ali

by Michael McDonagh

Big lives ask big questions, and demand much. Director Michael Mann's long-awaited new film *Ali* is about boxer Cassius Clay, Jr., and his transformation into icon Muhammad Ali. And though it asks big questions, and was a hugely demanding experience for all concerned, it never strains or sweats.

Mann and his co-scenarist Eric Roth have written a brilliant and brilliantly shaped script which manages to integrate the pivotal events in the boxer's life so that they always make dramatic and personal sense, and aren't just clips of "important" moments adroitly staged, which is the usual biopic approach. The director has done something almost unthinkable — he's made a picture with the interiority of chamber music in an industry which often turns out big, bad operas. After an internal masterpiece like the award-winning *The Insider* (1999), you'd expect as much, and Mann doesn't disappoint.

Yet who'd ever think that the charming and beautiful Will Smith could ever capture the intensity of Ali? The nerve, the sheer effrontery of casting a "TV actor" in this heroic part! But you'd be nuts to engage the latest hot indie thesp as the star of a \$105-million-plus film (Mann and his star made up the overages). Director

George Stevens gambled when he cast the then virtually unknown Max Von Sydow as Christ in *The Greatest Story Ever Told* (1965), and surrounded him with stars. Here Mann surrounds a big star with performers who are basically character actors, and each player fleshes out the story.

Mann and Roth inherited theirs from a team of writers who decided to cover the boxer's entire life. But they've wisely chosen to narrow their focus by concentrating on the years 1964 to 1974 when the fighter discovered himself and waged his most significant battles both public — the famous fight — and private — 2 stormy marriages, conversion to Islam, and friendship with Malcolm X and Elijah Muhammad.

We see Clay's struggle to become Ali in both direct, and poetically indirect ways. The stunning opening sequence lays out the picture's themes as a montage mixing past and present, which is filmed in different but complementary styles. And though the Mexican cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezki (*Like Water For Chocolate*; *Sleepy Hollow*) replaces Mann's usual cinematographer, the great Italian Dante Spinotti here (unavailable due to other projects), the director's visual sense controls every scene. Mann is the great stylist of contemporary American film, and his approach here abandons the elegant aestheticism of *The Insider* in

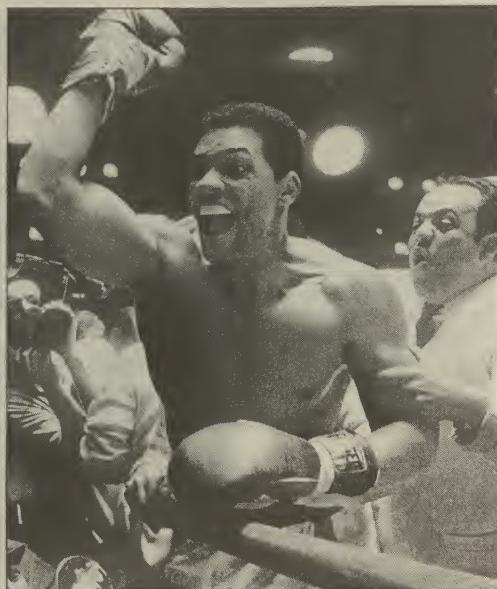
favor of a generally looser, grittier one which still retains the documentary look and feel of other works of his like *Thief* (1981).

Mann's heightened realism is hypnotic, and so are the performances. Will Smith gets Ali's contradictory character right, and it never seems like a slick, externalized impersonation, but something lived from within, and even his big scenes feel intimate. And those lines — to Liston (Michael Bent) at their famous weigh-in: "What you lookin' at, you ugly bear? ... Pounds of ugly! He so ugly, sweat runs backwards off his forehead to get away from his face!"

With material as colorful as this how can you go wrong? And Smith digs into it with obvious relish, and affection. His performance as Ali will probably be received as a controversial one not because Smith's such a name, but because he's sometimes blank, and almost a cipher as a character, in much the same way that Russell Crowe in his performance as tobacco whistleblower Jeffrey Wigand came off as opaque. And that's because Mann's a character-driven rather than a plot-driven writer-director, who knows that god is in the details.

In the ring, sparring

And what characters. Jon Voight is the spittin' image of Howard Cosell, bad rug and all. Mykelti Williamson is a scream as



Beautiful and charming: Will Smith captures the Ali spirit.

Don King, and Jamie Foxx as Drew "Bundini" Brown captures his wit and general craziness. His scene with Smith, where he's coming off a heroin high, is one of the most affecting in the film.

And speaking of affecting, Mario Van Peebles's performance as Malcolm X clearly conveys the deep bond he had with Ali, in both personal and political terms. But isn't the personal always political, and vice versa? Van Peebles' is also a marvel of concision. Everyone in this pitch-perfect cast is clearly operating at the top of

their game. Marvin Gaye's multi-talented daughter, Nona, manages to be charming and commanding as Ali's long-suffering Muslim wife, Belinda (and a lot spunkier than other Mann wives). Will Smith's real-life spouse Jada Pinkett-Smith brings real depth to her role. Joe Morton is quietly spectacular as Ali's lawyer Chauncey Eskridge, and he's not unlike Colm Feore with his equally difficult client, Wigand, in *The Insider*. Still another standout is Michael Michele who's surpass-

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C A S T R O

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A Tenenbaum family portrait: something vaguely Garp-like.

Dysfunctional family values

'The Royal Tenenbaums'

by Robert Julian

The Royal Tenenbaums, a Manhattan dysfunctional family epic, squanders a heavyweight cast on lightweight material. Writer/director Wes Anderson (*Bottle Rocket*, *Rushmore*) falls short of the humor standard set by Woody Allen's *Hannah and Her Sisters* while also failing to provide the penetrating insight of Robert Redford's family saga, *Ordinary People*. The script, co-authored by Owen Wilson, is the kind of work John Irving might produce after a year on Thorazine. There is something vaguely Garp-like in the unraveling of the Tenenbaums, but the film's frequently loony events unfold via the deadpan affect of the family's

collective depression. As a result, the two hours an audience must spend in the theater will not pass without significant squirming, and squinting at wristwatches.

Royal Tenenbaum (Gene Hackman) is the loose cannon of the Tenenbaum clan. A slick, successful attorney, he abandons his wife Etheline Tenenbaum (Angelica Huston); their two sons Chas (Ben Stiller) and Richie (Luke Wilson); and their adopted daughter Margot (Gwyneth Paltrow) while the children are still young. Etheline, an archeologist, raises the children by herself in the family's intellectually stimulating but emotionally austere Manhattan home. The precocious children mature into completely screwed-up genius adults. Margot

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Holiday book potpourri

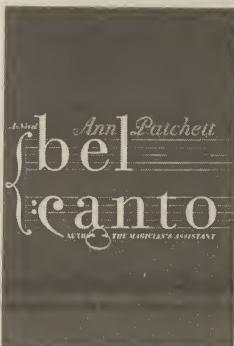
Dance, opera and symphony in print

by Stephanie von Buchau

go nuts in bookstores at this time of year. For every gift, I buy two books for myself and end the year with a stack of "to read" that takes more willpower than a New Year's diet and exercise program. To help you toward this glorious over-indulgence, I suggest the following books on music and related subjects.

Fiction

Bel Canto by Ann Patchett (HarperCollins; \$25). My college degree is in Victorian novels, and I doubt if I've read a dozen fiction books written since 1900 that I really loved. *Bel Canto* is one. A famous diva (read: Renée Fleming) accepts a gig at the home of a high-ranking politician in a Third World country (read: Peru) and is taken hostage along with the party's guests by a band of gun-toting terrorists.

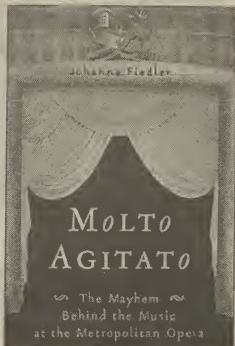


In prose that oozes both menace and compassion, Patchett weaves her magical tale of captors and hostages who bond, exchange ideas, even fall in love. The interior life of these people becomes so vivid that the reader does not want the captivity to reach its inevitable tragic end. A compelling book about the power of music and love.

Bios, memoirs and polemics

Valery Gergiev and the Kirov by John Ardoine (Amadeus Press; \$34.50). I reviewed this book favorably for the BAR a few months ago. It makes a great gift because it is oversized, and lavishly filled with illustrations. Ardoine interweaves the history of opera and ballet at St. Petersburg's Kirov (now Maryinsky) theater with the year he spent following conductor

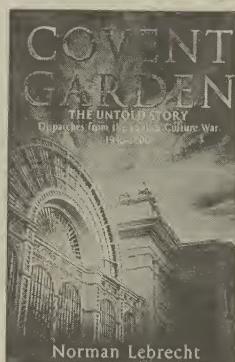
Valery Gergiev around the world. Entertaining mix of history, reviews and gossip.



Molto Agitato by Johanna Fiedler (Nan A. Talese/Doubleday; \$30). A book of special interest because it promises details about the rumors that have circulated for years on the love life of Metropolitan Opera music director James Levine. Unfortunately, Fiedler's insider knowledge as long-time press director of the opera company bumps into her job-honed natural discretion and while she hints boldly, she also smoothes over rumors and innuendo. It's maddening if you are looking for dish. On the other hand, it's possible that some people haven't even heard the rumors. Whatever, I couldn't put the book down, even if I felt I needed a shower afterward.

Astor Piazzolla by Natalio Gorin (Amadeus Press; \$22.95 paperback). Last year I recommended a bio of the Argentine tango master, but it was a tough read because the authors felt they had to defend Piazzolla's prickly personality. This volume, written with the composer's help just before he died in 1992, is essentially a series of interviews in which Piazzolla tells us what he is like — miserly, single-minded about his music, self-promoting. You can't help but like a guy whose honesty about his own faults is as admirable as his music is stimulating. Excellent notes and annotations by translator Fernando Gonzalez make this the definitive volume on this still-underappreciated 20th century giant.

Covent Garden, the Untold Story by Norman Lebrecht (Northeastern University Press; \$37.50). Subtitled "Dispatches from the English cultural War, 1945-2000," this latest of Lebrecht's rants is as entertaining as his *When the Music Stops* and *The*



Maestro Myth. Remember to believe only about 50 percent of what Lebrecht states as fact (some Brits would say even less than that), but the guy's been around, knows where the bodies are buried and is an angry (if self-congratulatory) gadfly, biting the butts of the lazy, amateurish, overprivileged gang that brought the Royal Opera House to its knees.

Rosa Raisa by Charles Mintzer (Northeastern University Press; \$30). I loved this book about the Russian-Jewish dramatic soprano (1893-1963) who reinvented herself several times in a biased world, sang Turandot in the world premiere of Puccini's opera, yet left little recorded legacy to excite future generations. Her large, plangent voice did not record accurately, but



Ward Marston released a three-disc set of Raisa's complete recordings on his eponymous label that gives a good idea of her unique vocal timbre. Mintzer's style is sober and stolid, but his documentation is impeccable and the historical illustrations, many from private collections, are worth the price of the book.

Coffee-table tomes plus

American Mavericks, edited by Susan Kay and Larry Rothe (University of California Press; \$24.95 paperback). This book came as a complete surprise to me. I had no idea it was in preparation and, without expectations, the result is a happy Christmas present for all San Francisco Symphony lovers and fans of Michael Tilson Thomas. Essentially, it is a celebration of the avant-garde ("American mavericks, visionaries, pioneers, iconoclasts") based on the SFS American Mavericks

Festival presented in June 2000; yet it is not about these highly successful concerts so much as about the music and the men and women who created it.

Essays by Alan Rich and Michael Broyles are succinct and mercifully free of jargon. There are chapters on early mavericks (Ives, Ruggles, Varese, etc.), a pair of contemporaries (Ellington and Copland), technology and junk-yard composers (Antheil, Nancarrow, Harrison), postwar avant garde (Feldman, Babbitt, Foss, Cage) and the '60s generation (Riley, Reich, Adams, Monk). There is a preface by Lukas Foss and a post-script by Tilson Thomas. There is an enclosed CD with 70 minutes of live musical excerpts from the 2000 programs, including spoken interviews and intros. The artwork, layout and illustrations are sensational.

Mark Morris' "L'Allegro, il pensoso ed il moderato" edited by Jeffrey Escoffier and Matthew Lore (Marlowe & Co.; \$50). The coffee table book on dance to end them all — a loving, beautifully illustrated celebration of Morris' masterpiece set to the full-evening Handel oratorio that has played twice to sold-out houses at UC Berkeley. We're one of the few areas to see the work live; anyone whose life was changed by this funny, comprehensive, moving and above-all musical view of the universe has to have this book. Intelligent essays and fabulous color illustrations. ▼

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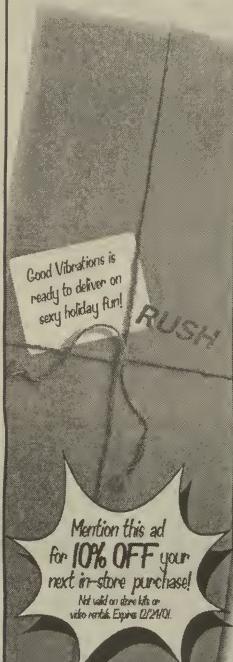
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That's showbiz, folks!

Two museum exhibits showcase vaudeville houses

by Richard Dodds

They're miles apart, literally and figuratively, but two Bay Area museum exhibits do find repeated points of connection as they survey the past century of show business.

At the Blackhawk Museum in Danville, a contemporary marble palace built primarily to display its extensive collection of vintage luxury cars, the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition is presenting a salute to American musicals that it calls *Red, Hot & Blue*.

At the San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum (SFPALM), hidden away on the fourth floor of a municipal office building, a homegrown history of the Orpheum Theatre is jauntily titled *Life Upon the Wicked Stage*.

It's not really surprising that these two exhibits, both continuing into the spring, should intersect. After all, the original Orpheum Theatre opened in 1887 as the grand West Coast home for vaudeville, which is where the Smithsonian begins its survey by looking at Tony Pastor's Theatre in New York. Lillian Russell, Bert Williams, and the Four Cohans (including George M.) are just a few of the luminaries who played both theaters.

Pastor, who introduced the idea of "clean" variety shows, gets credit for creating a nationwide vaudeville explosion that would include construction of the original 3,500-seat Orpheum on McAllister Street. Pastor's more humble theater on 14th Street in New York was advertised as a "temple of amusement where heads of families can bring their Ladies and children" without worrying about "rowdyish and troublesome elements."

There was often a touch of class about a vaudeville bill as it mixed up the classics with the dog acts and jugglers. Of course, it helped if those classical acts also had a dash of novelty. That was the case with Sissieretta Jones, an African-American opera singer whose lengthy career is highlighted in both exhibits.

She was better known as the Black Patti, a nickname she earned when her voice was compared to the celebrated diva Adelina Patti. Jones, we learn, disliked this sobriquet, but when theaters insisted on publicizing her that



Black Patti, headliner

way, she gave in. Jones eventually became the headliner of the Black Patti Troubadours. In addition to the vaudeville houses across the country, they also played the White House for Benjamin Harrison.

While her troubadours were black performers who were required by the times to wear blackface, Sissieretta Jones had the clout to gain an exception for herself. Sheryl Flatow, the curator of the Orpheum retrospective, also points out in the exhibit that the San Francisco auditorium "had the dubious distinction to be the first theater where Jolson appeared in blackface singing 'Mammy'."

Jolson sang here in 1909, by which point the Orpheum was in its second permanent home out of an eventual four. The fourth, on Market Street at Hyde, is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year as a vaudeville house/movie palace/touring Broadway theater. But since most of those 75 years were spent showing movies, the prime material in the SFPALM exhibit dates back to the Orpheum's earlier incarnations.

"When I started digging through SFPALM's archives, I found all this wonderful stuff," said Flatow. "But the people over at the Orpheum didn't have much. I was hoping there would be contracts and things like that, but nobody ever though this stuff was important."

But among the memorabilia that has found its way over the years into SFPALM's archives are numerous programs and playbills that offer a tantalizing look at entertainment as it once was. For example, an 11-act bill of 1910 includes Lionel Barrymore starring in a play of his own pen titled *White Slavers*, Rosner's Electric Orchestra (which included 26 electrically operated instruments), a novelty wire act by the Gus Onlow Trio, and filmed



The New Orpheum, a grand theatre on O'Farrell, near Powell St.

scenes from the 1910 World Championship baseball games.

You can also find programs offering William Frawley, the future Fred Mertz, in *Taxi Please*, Bert Lahr in *What's the Idea*, the Marx Brothers in *On the Balcony*, "renowned eccentric juggler" W.C. Fields, and Papinta (born Carolyn Hippie Holpin in Indiana) who used silk and mirrors to become "the world's greatest spectacular dancer."

What Flatow couldn't find was much description of the original Orpheum, destroyed in the 1906 earthquake. "It sounded from the little snippets here and there like it was a spectacular theater," she said.

But she did find effusive newspaper descriptions of the third Orpheum, which the San Francisco Bulletin reported, had "seats that are roomy, soft, and fitted the body with as much care as a corset."

The issue of smoking existed even then, but with a decided tilt toward tobacco. "Smoking has never been objectionable at the Orpheum," said the Bulletin. "It's only stale smoke to which there is a legitimate protest, and that is now a thing of the past."

The fourth and current Orpheum actually opened as the Pantages Theatre in 1925, part of Alex Pantages belief in an unlimited future for vaudeville. Within three years, his empire was in ruins and the Orpheum owners decided they preferred the Moorish-inspired auditorium that Pantages built to their own home and took it over.

Movies soon became the main business of the Orpheum, but its future as a home for live theater was previewed in 1970 when ACT

staged *Hair* in the old auditorium. In 1977, the San Francisco Civic Light Opera inaugurated its management of the Orpheum with *Annie Get Your Gun* starring Debbie Reynolds. Four years later, the Shorestein Hays Nederlander Organization bought the theater as a home for its series of touring Broadway productions.

The only costumes on display in the PALM exhibit are from that 1970 production of *Hair*, but over at the Blackhawk, costumes are a main attraction. Ray Bolger's Scarecrow outfit from *The Wizard of Oz*, Carol Channing's gown for the title number in *Hello, Dolly!*, the gold tap shoes that Ann Miller used for 45 years, a glass-beaded dress Ginger Rogers wore in *Follow the Fleet*, and somewhat anticlimactically, the red blazer Jerry Lewis donned for the *Damn Yankees* revival are displayed in glass cases.

The Ginger Rogers dress, with Ginger in it, also turns up as part of a big-screen video presentation made up sound and film clips that span the past century of the American musical. The rare clips of Ethel Merman animatedly performing "I Got Rhythm" at a live event and a young Sophie Tucker vamping her way through a night-club act among the must-sees in this good — but not great — exhibit. ▼

The San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum is located at 401 Van Ness Ave. Admission is free. Call 255-4800. The Blackhawk Museum is located at 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. Admission is \$8. Call (925) 736-2277.

Tenenbaums

◀ page 28

become a playwright at a young age, but burns out in her twenties. Chas becomes a financial wizard, but goes over the edge when his wife dies in a plane crash. And Richie becomes a successful tennis player until he has a nervous breakdown on the court during a televised tournament.

The three children, all in the midst of adult emotional crises, move back into the family home just as the aging Royal, bankrupt and homeless, decides he must win back the family, and his wife,

before Etheline marries Henry (Danny Glover). With a bogus cancer diagnosis, Royal, too, moves back into Etheline's home. This set-up serves as the catalyst for each character's emotional catharsis. Unfortunately, most of the familial confrontations are relatively well-modulated discourses between highly intelligent but vaguely depressed neurotics. This does not make for compelling viewing.

The actors do nice ensemble work for director Anderson, no doubt providing the performances they were asked to produce. David Wasco creates a visually intriguing upper-middle-class

Manhattan with his production design, and Robert Yeoman's photography appropriately reflects the city through the eyes of the Tenenbaums' insular world. Yet Wes Anderson's film remains an ambitious failure because it does not engage the audience's intellect and emotions, or even tickle the collective funny bone. *The Royal Tenenbaums* aspires to a certain epic sweep of intergenerational craziness, but ends up being only mildly whimsical. And these days, whimsy isn't what it used to be. ▼

The Royal Tenenbaums opens Friday, December 21.

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Art that's hot (and not)

What's up at the galleries in December

by Will Shank

Take a break from your last-minute shopping in Union Square and check out some of the installations in the downtown art and exhibition spaces. You might be surprised to discover how peaceful it is in there after a morning of retail angst!

Overlooked in the hoopla of the Ansel Adams centenary show at **SFMOMA** is a little jewel in the fourth-floor video gallery by Swiss artists Fischli and Weiss, best known for their Rube Goldberg-esque, chain-reaction film *Der Lauf des Dinges*. This one, called *Busi* (Kitty), presents a mouse's eye view of a cat lapping up milk, a work originally shown on a digital billboard in Manhattan's Times Square.

Across the street at **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts**, which is, unfortunately, always quiet, three artists have installed intriguing exhibitions with mixed results. Josiah McElheny has recreated the scene of a memorable 1929 Bauhaus ball at Dessau, Germany, in his installation piece, "The Metal Party." The idea is to put on a metallic gown and enter a ballroom filled with spangly decorations, but if it sounds good in concept, the effect is to be arriving too late at a party to which one was not invited.

In YBCA's main gallery, Ellen Gallagher has installed "Preserve," which features 16 of her intriguing vintage wig ads for black women, altered with collage elements to make ironic statements about the vagaries of vanity. Zillions of the glued-on rubber blips and scraps also cover an enormous white jungle-gym whose function and symbolism was completely lost on me.

"Preserve" might be a better name for the third show, a thoughtful compilation of objects by Isabella Kirkland, who worked with the Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park to present an artful view of the plight of endangered species and the scientists who study them. Her oil paintings, titled "Descendant," "Ascendant" and "Trade," are like 17th-century Dutch still-lifes, a clever camouflage for her message, which is "The beautiful things in this painting are disappearing, or are in the wrong place."

The "Big Orange" poster in the window of the **California Historical Society** (678 Mission Street, between Third St. and New Montgomery) is a tease, since the colorfully intriguing installation of orange-crates art has just come down, but watch that space for future exhibitions.

Across the street, an almost seamless transition has taken place at 655 Mission. The former

Ansel Adams Center became the new **Cartoon Art Museum** earlier this month. (Friends of Photography still runs the enticing storefront bookshop at this location.) After years of being tucked away on an upper floor of an office building near an IHOP a few blocks down the street, the CAM now has a prime location around the corner from SFMOMA. Its inaugural installation includes a roomful of "Bizarro" cartoon art, complemented by surprising original Dali-esque oil paintings by Pizaro, who appeared himself to paint the wall art for the opening of the show, called, "You Say Tomato, I Say Bizarro." The Museum may have bitten off a bit more than most visitors can chew in one visit, since its single-floor galleries are jam-packed with everything from Disney animation eels to original artwork by everyone from Charles Schulz to Ernie Bushmiller. But perhaps the installations will thin out a bit and the salon-style hangings will have more focus after the Museum finds its audience. The drawings and lithographs of the late Edward Gorey are alone worth the price of admission.

Mrs. Vera makes history

Bushmiller's artwork for the "Nancy" and "Fritz Ritz" cartoons probably resonate especially loudly for that local art duo Michael Johnstone and David Faulk. Faulk, whose alter-ego Mrs. Vera is well chronicled in a splashy new photography installation by Johnstone at the **Gay Lesbian Bi-sexual Transgender Historical Society** (973 Market Street, Suite 400), recently closed a disconcerting Visual Aid show at the New Conservatory Theater. Faulk's large-scale paintings have those cartoon cuties Nancy, Sluggo, Little Lulu and company appearing in various compromised positions, biting the heads of small animals and so forth. You know, the usual, from Mrs. Vera.

Speaking of whom, her exploits as a misfit housewife painted blue or yellow, and wearing Jean-Luc Godard acid hues, now scream from the walls of the GLBTHS (much less of a mouthful than the whole name). Here is Mrs. Vera with a shopping bag, squeezed between two architectural columns. There is Mrs. Vera apparently dead, lying upside down in a debris-filled dumpster.

Call 415.777.5455 for information; the photographs are up until February 23.

The work of these two partners is also on view, side-by-side, in a vitrine on the sixth floor of the **San Francisco Main Public Library** until January 11. "Positive (poz-i-tiv)" is a collaborative exhibition with Visual Aid, which fea-

tures the work of that organization's other artists as well. Gilder Joel Hoyer has installed a polychrome of four panels that look like an aerial view of an erupted volcano, covered with silver leaf, a fascinating textural juxtaposition. Mark Paron, who works with found materials, is represented by a series of ethereal mobiles over a light-filled bridge passageway. Cheap plastic flowers have never looked so heavenly. Also working with *objets trouvés* is Martin Freeman, whose whimsical humanoid figures made of cast-off household objects fill the SFPL Gallery. The artworks are complemented by quotes from the artists who explore the influences that living with HIV has had on their lives and their work.

A bit farther afield at **Space 743** (743 Harrison Street), and closing this Saturday, are David Maxim's completely original sculptural paintings. He has developed similar themes on a life-size scale, but these toy-figure assemblages work well in their precious size, which makes them seem that they can be manipulated like playthings. The themes are distinctly *not* playful, however. A group of faceless figures, suspended before a canvas panel, hold onto each others' shoulders in conscious imitation of Breughel's "The Blind Leading the Blind." In another a group of mole-men crawl through a transparent wire tunnel a la "The Great Escape."

Shopping San Francisco's own



"15," oil on canvas, 2000, by Robert Charles Dunahay, at micaëla.

boutique village, Hayes Valley? Stop by **micaëla** at the corner of Hayes and Gough (334 Gough) before January 31 for a look at the recent work of Robert Dunahay. Best known for his stunning tropical variations on glowing palm trees in various media, Dunahay has departed from his familiar theme here. Large-scale oil paintings telescope the viewer into a tangle of candy-colored bolts of

fabric that remind me of those sugary ribbon candies of childhood, or of a pastry chef's shavings of butter-cream icing as they fall onto the top of a layer cake. Their lush chiaroscuro makes the paintings resemble an enlarged detail from a tapestry or Persian rug draped across a piece of fruit in a Vermeer. Yummy stuff.

Happy holidays! Next week: best of the year in art. ▼

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San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus
Dr. Kathleen McGuire,
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Ali

◀ page 28

ingly lovely, and moving, in her very brief part as Veronica Porsche whom Ali meets in Afric, and later marries. Yet Ron Silver, as the fighter's trainer, Angelo Dundee, is surprisingly flat, which may have something to do with how his role is written, or maybe it's just his character.

Though Muhammad Ali has inspired millions, Mann's film refuses to smooth over his very

human contradictions and simply presents him, warts and all, with empathy and grace, as someone waging an inner *jihad* in terms of what he discovers as he lives. Simplicity is always the hardest thing to achieve, and the director and his crew have done that here in spades. They've clearly scored a knockout, and this without ever begging for sympathy or preaching to the converted, an almost impossible feat. *Ali* is tough and tender and does its subject proud. Real depth, real power. And—it's hugely entertaining. ▶

Television gets real

But be careful not to watch it too much!

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Times such as these put television front and center. When we aren't seeking news, we seek escape. TV brought us both in a year when no one wanted to travel very far from home. There were, of course, the highs and lows, the sublime and the nadir. TV's finest hours came in the aftermath of 9-11. Coverage of America's worst tragedy since Pearl Harbor was handled with surprising grace and restraint. Suspension by all the major networks of regular programming and commercials underscored the gravity of the event. Stellar during those dark days amidst overall excellent network and cable coverage were ABC and NBC and notably anchors Peter Jennings and Tom Brokaw, who showed a human side of the news we rarely glimpse.

Nightline, with anchors Ted Koppel and Chris Bury, always commendable for bringing issues of politics and social concern to light, has devoted every program post 9-11 to the ever-evolving events since that day. But prior to 9-11 *Nightline* provided other public services with its continuing series on racism in America, periodic programs addressing tensions between Israelis and Arabs which included town meetings in Israel with members of both sides and just prior to 9-11 a series on the merciless civil war raging in the Congo for the past decade. *Nightline* is the best in-depth news program on network TV.

Russert potatoes

Sunday mornings mean church for some, politics for others. The talking heads fest that people (some say litter) the Sunday airwaves have their high and

low points (the dueling bad hair on ABC's *This Week* pits Sam Donaldson, George Will and Cokie Roberts against each other more than politically each week). Top among these shows is NBC's *Meet the Press*. Host Tim Russert celebrated his tenth anniversary with the program on December 8th with a brief recap of some of his more amazing interviews. Russert may have a personal perspective (other than being a staunch supporter of his native Buffalo's sports teams), but none who watch *Meet the Press* have ever seen it interfere with his hardball grilling of politicos of every stripe. Russert doesn't suffer fools and always has his homework done. If a pol tries to weasel out of a question or pretend he or she never said that, Russert has the quote in black and white to cause his guests more than a little squirming. (One of our favorite pre-9-11 moments was Russert grilling new EPA director and former New Jersey governor Christi Whitman about Bush Administration standards for arsenic in drinking water. When Whitman, herself a pretty tough cookie, averred that more studies needed to be done, Russert bent over the table and came back up holding a two-foot stack of papers—studies on arsenic in drinking water—slammed them down and queried: "Aren't these enough?"

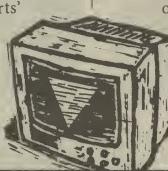
In a venue rife with agendas, hidden and otherwise, Russert remains that most anomalous being, a reporter who never lets his own politics obscure his presentation of the facts to his audience.

PBS excels in the general news department with its evening *News Hour* with Jim MacNeil. The weekly roundtable with pundits Mark Shields and Paul Gigot are worthwhile and sharp. Often reporting news and perspectives the networks don't, PBS offers an alternative view of national and international politics.

From real to surreal

It would have been impossible to surpass 9-11 for the grimness of reality TV. But post 9-11 the vicarious thrills of reality TV seemed to hold even more interest for an audience suffering from post traumatic stress and fearful of leaving home or even opening the daily mail. Of the reality shows that continue to infect the networks, the best remains CBS's always entertaining and engaging *Survivor*. The current Africa series has been fraught with intrigue (and of course, a resident queen, 20-something bartender/flamer Brandon). Scenes of African wildlife bring the importance of conservation to the forefront as the contestants struggle in the harsh climate. We love *Survivor*. Mark Burnett knows how to make this show work; as a consequence, viewers are never bored and always have players to root for.

CBS also had a winner with *The Amazing Race*, which ended in a wild finale last week. The team aspect of this reality series propelled it in the range of contestants and venues made for compelling viewing. Contestants had to work hard to win, using wit as well as skill. (We have to admit to being thrilled that the Log Cabin



Lavender Tube

queens Joe and Bill, the worst advertisement for privileged, insufferable, ugly-American white queers with too much money, didn't win, though they did finish third.) We'd like another round of this show.

The queer quotient

New dramas weren't able to best the old this season. FOX's terrific suds *Pasadena* suffered from constant pre-emptions so FOX will try again with the series — critically acclaimed here and elsewhere — in January. FOX's thriller *24* has done quite well but hard to pick up if one hasn't been watching from the outset.

NYPD Blue and *The West Wing* continue to hold the top drama places with superb ensemble acting, taut storylines and incredible writing. (We would like *Blue* queen Bill Brochtrup to get a storyline, given this is his third full season with the series, however.) Queer issues regularly feature in these series, as well. These are the best shows on TV.

Always worth watching, though admittedly cultish, are UPN's *Buffy, the Vampire Slayer* and the WB's *Angel*. Everyone is pretty and/or buff, the writing is ultra-witty and camp, the storylines fun and/or poignant. The queer characters stay queer and the outsider nature of the programming works consistently, thanks to creator Joss Whedon's flair for the arcane and obscure.

Queer issues are often addressed in that other series of series, *Law & Order*, *Law & Order: SVU* and *Law & Order: Criminal Intent*. Queer bashing, gay porn, pedophilia and other queer-related issues have come from an center this season on the NBC shows, but the politics aren't always what they could be. An anti-woman undercurrent on these shows also makes us a tad queasy. Still, it's solid TV worth watching — and keeping tabs on.

ER had a few down seasons,

but that's all over. Again, attention to queer issues and a consistent queer character front and center makes this a show to watch.

The best queer show? *Will & Grace*. We wish we could say otherwise — wish we could applaud that most stultifying of queer shows, *Queer as Folk* (or *Zzzzzz* as it's known at our house) — but frankly, if we want to watch simpering, tedious, vacuous, pretty-boys and their freakishly anti-woman lesbian friends (how did they find each other, given how they only know gay men? We used to call these girls fag hags, but...), we would go hang out at certain venues on the Castro where at least we could get buzzed and possibly get laid as well.

W & G gets a lot of crap for being stereotypical, but need we remind those critics that most stereotypes came about because they were, ahem, *true*? *W & G* is always hilarious and never feels forced. The recent episode on politics had us rolling. (We loved Grace to Will: "My two oppressed groups [women and Jews] trumps your one [queers].") Both the gay male candidate and the female Jewish candidate were terrible; that Jack voted for the black candidate was a terrific coda on the whole schtick. This show is fresh, funny and basically unafraid. No, there isn't the tumbling that's the staple of *QAF* but then isn't that what porn is for, kids?

Hits and misses

Sadly, Ellen's big comeback wasn't. Despite moving to a different time slot (after the coveted number one rated Emmy-winning sit-com *Everybody Loves Raymond*) *The Ellen Show's* ratings remain in the basement because, despite Ellen and co-star Cloris Leachman, the show is very uneven and almost never laugh-out-loud funny. Ellen gave a fabulous performance as host of the on-again/off-again Emmys, but

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No Man's Land

◀ Arts cover

made him allergic to sleeping in cold rooms.

Telling himself he was just taking a short R 'n' R, Tanovic enrolled in a Belgium film school. His eye for war translated into two widely seen documentaries — one capturing the story of a Bosnian soldier who, having lost his hands and eyes to a land mine, confesses on camera that from now on "my wife's going to be my hands and my kids are going to be my eyes."

What arises from this young filmmaker's journey is a cauldron of anger, survivor's guilt, and cynical resignation about the tardy reaction of the world community to the slaughter of innocents in Sarajevo. This allows Tanovic to fashion a feature film of rare power, trenchant satire, and at times a Beckett-like absurdity about the futility and yet seeming inevitability of war.

Tanovic describes the Bosnian sensibility as a world-weary acceptance of the type of tragedy that would prompt a stone to cry, ironically (for this mostly Muslim nation) filtered through an almost Jewish sense of humor.

Tanovic's film, *No Man's Land*, winner of a Cannes Film Festival prize for its screenplay, fittingly

begins with a relief unit of Bosnian soldiers lost in the pre-dawn fog. The men kibitz and tease each other, all the while becoming increasingly anxious about where they are. Where they are — once the fog burns away in a glorious sunrise — is in the gun sights of a Serbian tank company. After a ferocious fusillade, only one of the Bosnians gets up. Ciki (Branko Djuric), once he realizes he's still alive, starts craving a cigarette. Needing a light, he jumps from the safety of the trench to pick a lighter from the pocket of a dead comrade. Tanovic recalls: "I know a lot of people who didn't have food, any heat, any water — you just live with it, you learn you don't eat that day; but when there were no cigarettes, people got really pissed off!"

Ciki soon has company in the person of Nino (Rene Bitorajac), a rookie Serbian soldier, who is sent, along with a grizzled old sergeant, to check out the trench for enemy survivors. As a kind of nasty joke the sergeant plants a special type of land mine under the body of a Bosnian soldier he believes to be dead. Up until this point Tanovic has been a genial companion, trying to explain the Bosnian tendency to laugh when the going gets the roughest. But now the subject of land mines

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MUSIC

From the sublime to the ridiculous

Christmas CDs, set two

by Jason Serinus

Seventeenth Century Christmas Eve — Susanne Rydén & Bel'Arte Salzburg (Winter & Winter Basic Edition)

This attractively packaged CD, distributed by Allegro Imports, offers 13 beautiful baroque selections that together recount the story of Christmas. Composed in various parts of Germany in the 17th century, the works are performed to authentic perfection by the gifted Swedish soprano Susanne Rydén and baroque violinist Annegret Siedel's fine Bell'Arte Salzburg original instrument ensemble.

Beginning with Dietrich Buxtehude's setting of a text from the Gospel according to John, the CD includes vocal and orchestral music by Rosemüller, Schmelzer, Biber, Schildt, and others. Most of the pieces are engagingly lyrical; there is little of the knock-me-over virtuosic writing that distinguishes much composition from the baroque period. The ecological red-and-green cardboard packaging — no breakable plastic here — offers translations, but lacks notes on the performers or ensemble.

Rydén, who has performed with such early-music greats as Christopher Hogwood and Nicolas McGegan, has a winning, clear soprano voice that she employs with consummate ease and skill. The results, when backed and interspersed with instrumental playing of the first rank, make for a delightful listening experience.

I took this CD to my chiropractor's office, and urged him to play it instead of the bluegrass and Segovia that seem his current faves. Every patient in the office loved it. This may be "serious" classical music, but it has a shine and joy that are positively infectious. The 24-bit recording, recorded in Italy with no processing, is excellent. Highly recommended.

Music for Christmas — John Rutter, City of London Sinfonia (Hyperion)

Romanian soprano Angela Gheorghiu, in her last recording for Decca before she and hus-



band Roberto Alagna signed with EMI, offers a mixed-bag recital. Some of the selections, all close to the singer's heart, are downright gorgeous; others call for a different, less grandly operatic kind of voice.

Although the disc labels its contents sacred arias, some of the selections are songs whose sacredness is questionable. Regardless, the four sacred songs which begin the CD, all from the Orthodox Church and penned by 20th-century Romanian composers, are the definite high point. Introduced by the sound of the toaca, a wooden percussion device that is part of the Orthodox tradition in Moldavia, these songs are unique, ethereal, and immensely satisfying. The diva, who sings in her native language, is backed by the fine Romanian "Madrigal" National Chamber Choir, conducted by Marin Constantin, and the London Philharmonic Orchestra, led by the strikingly handsome Romanian-born Ion Marin.

After 18 minutes of wonderful singing, the soprano offers such familiar selections as "O holy night," Schubert's "Ave Maria," and "Adeste, fideles (O Come All Ye Faithful)." Here, the hint of unmovable metal in the middle of her beautiful voice seems unsuited for the lightness of these works.

Mystrium: Sacred Arias — Angela Gheorghiu (Decca)

For lighter fare, the English equivalent of those Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops renditions of "Sleigh Ride" and other Christmas favorites, it's hard to beat the music of John Rutter. Whether listening to his original "Shepherd's Pipe Carol" or his arrangement of

"Silent Night," there's an irresistibly friendly charm to Rutter's music. Its warm, cozy, friends-around-the-fire feel is perfect background for a holiday get-together, or to cheer you up as you contemplate what all your Xmas lights are going to do to your electric bill. The amassed English forces sound wonderful in this well-recorded music: relaxed, comfy, and filled with good cheer.



Mittens for Christmas — Kirkmount (Dorian)

Alex, Samuel, and Simeon Bigney, the three brothers who comprise the Kirkmount Celtic Ensemble, play a combination of harp, bones, fiddle, cello and bodhran. The resultant folksy blend, equally inviting on "Westford Carol," "O Holy Night," and "Greeblesleeves Jig," makes for a refreshing 52-minute program.

These brothers' ancestors played a similar style of music in the ancient village of Kirkmount in the hills of Nova Scotia. Now the men, resident musicians at Robert Redford's Sundance resort in Utah, appear on *A Prairie Home Companion* and in many

US venues. Though this disc won't replace the winning, better-recorded Dorian folk-oriented disc *A Winter Solstice with Hellion*, it brings much pleasure.

Christmas at Trinity — Naxos

If it's traditional carols you're looking for, this disc may fit the bill. It also deserves your support. In response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, Naxos and New York City's historic Trinity Church, Wall Street have chosen to donate all proceeds from this CD to the United Way September 11th Disaster Relief Fund.

The professional choir of Trinity Church, is led by director Owen Burdick in a program of traditional carols. Burdick has intentionally developed a distinctly American sound for his choir, no stuffy English accents or pompous circumstances here. While this is admirable, one wishes the results sounded a little less careful and soul-conscious.

Located in the heart of New York's financial district, Trinity Church was founded in 1697. Its St. Paul's Chapel served as the site of the New World premiere of Handel's *Messiah* and the Christmas hymn "Silent Night," and was where George Washington worshipped after his inauguration in 1784. Closer to the present day, church and chapel stand just a few hundred feet from the site of the former World Trade Center. Miraculously, both buildings suffered only minor damage, and the parish staff inside the church and nearby offices escaped safely after the collapse of the towers.



Our Favorite Things: Christmas in Vienna — Bennett, Church, Domingo & Williams (Sony)

Thanks to corporate capitalism, here they are, together for what one may hope is the last time: Tony Bennett, Charlotte Church, Plácido Domingo, and Vanessa Williams. The foursome is recorded live on December 21, 2000 with the Vienna Symphony and Steven Mercurio, the Ralph Sharon Quartet, and the Gumpoldskirchner Spatzen Children's Choir. It's quite a mouthful. And it's quite a trip.

Bennett retains his marvelous unique style and sound, even if at this point in his career he must sometimes resort to belting out his high notes. Domingo remains the great Domingo, steadfastly operatic in even the lightest numbers, the voice darker than before. Church sounds like a little girl who will never grow up, and Williams like a beauty who has more to offer in the way of looks than voice. There are a number of duets and trios that will raise one's eyebrows, and a frightening setting that places the arpeggios usually heard at the start of the Bach-Gounod "Ave Maria" under a popular melody. ▼

No Man's Land

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prompts the first sign of the long simmering anger that fueled the creation of *No Man's Land*.

The film's inciting incident is the planting of a spring loaded bomb under the body of a soldier who turns out to be very much alive, but who will be very dead should he so much as move a muscle. I asked Tanovic if the insidious device really existed. "Yes," he said, "it exists and you in America are producing [them]. Here you call them 'Bouncing Betty.' I think I wouldn't be too proud about it if I was in your place because you, China and Russia are about the only countries that still produce [land] mines. Mines should be banned because mines don't choose victims. . . Children, older people, everybody but soldiers step on mines." Tanovic explains the post-war evolution of Bosnia is greatly hampered by the presence of up to three million unexploded mines.

Tanovic reserves his harshest

barbs in the film for the multi-national force that was supposed to be securing the peace in Bosnia under the auspices of the United Nations. Tanovic's most savage creation is the careerist UN bureaucrat, the aptly named Colonel Soft (played by the British openly gay actor Simon Callow in one of his most chilling tour de force performances). "There were [UN] soldiers on the ground who I respected very much, all credit goes to those people who were there and were trying to do something and some of them even against the politic of the United Nations which was the politic of neutrality, so-called, if you can tell me what neutral means. Can you be neutral about what happened on the 11th of September? . . . You can say 'I don't give a shit.' But that's a statement. You don't care, so say, 'We don't care.' But then don't call yourself United Nations. Call yourself well-paid people for doing nothing." ▼

No Man's Land opens Friday, December 21 in San Francisco.

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Thanks for the memories 2001 - part I Leather ups & downs

by Mister Marcus

The past year in the leather nation was not without both exciting and (rarely) disappointing developments. The year 2001 saw a rise in respect for the boy culture, long overdue, and countless fundraisers for worthy causes (more about that below).

On the minus side: In spite of millions being spent on educating the masses, the AIDS epidemic continues to thrive, with people ignoring safe-sex suggestions. Barebacking has been making big strides, while a monumental increase in recreational drug use is our community's dirty little secret — or is it a secret?

No one is telling anyone to stop or what to do here — most of us are over 21 and fully aware of the consequences of over-indulgence in these areas. And no one is preaching — do what you got to do. You alone are responsible for your ultimate destiny. Sometimes one's destiny is not pretty at all.

Also in 2001, the Drummer titles went away forever — lost to a greedy Dutch conglomerate of misguided individuals completely unclear on the concept of leather. Their concept of leather centers on "for profit" and lust, using dedicated leathermen and boys to achieve their tawdry goals. The leather "terrorists" from Amsterdam are being held in the same contempt as the Afghanistan henchmen who made life a living hell — yes even in the leather community.

Those holier-than-thou legislators in our national government are trying to pass legislation censoring website content but thankfully, the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom has filed a lawsuit against none other than the U.S. Attorney General. It is a wise move to contribute to this small crusading army of people.

With this state of affairs in the Leather Nation on everyone's mind, it is fitting and a relief to look back and review some pleasurable things that have happened:

January

The year of the snake kicked off with the 2000 bare-chest calendar men making the final appearance of their committed year with a date auction at the Eagle raising over \$6,000... Mr. North



IMSL. Jo Blas joined her new "title" husband Stefan Mueller (who won the IML 2001 title in Chicago in May 2001) along with Houston Davenport (far left), 2nd runner-up and Darrell Moyers (far right), 1st runner-up. It was one of those breathtaking moments at IML 2001.

Coast Leather T. Jay Cain put on a magnificent "Taste of the River" fundraiser... The Sandmuttonia Guardian ceased publication with no explanation... Stompers Boots began their monthly boot parties at the Loading Dock... The Centaur MC's Mid-Atlantic Leather weekend in Washington, DC was well attended and Michael Marino emerged the winner and has done a hell of a job with the title... Scott Brogan was chosen Mr. January 2002 on the bare chest calendar and Tony Smith was named Mr. February 2002... Polar Bear Weekend at the Russian River enjoyed good success... The SF GDI's held a 27th anniversary party and announced the demise of the club... "Mama" Reinhardt staged a very successful breast cancer benefit at the Cliff House... Houston Davenport was named Mr. Powerhouse Leather, and John Bernal was named Mr. Eagle Tavern Leather. Dan Azevedo was chosen Mr. Texas Leather in Dallas... The Defenders of SF celebrated their 7th anniversary... Jake the Snake at the Russian River reveled in his first "Black Out" party. Jake is still without child.

February

Chablis and Tom Basch were elected emperor and empress... Enrique Masa was chosen Mr. March on the bare chest calendar... Chris Ross was chosen Mr. Daddy's Leather... Marc Rosenberg was chosen Mr. Cell Block Leather in Chicago... Mr. Hoist Leather (Liam Hogan) was chosen in London and what a hunk!... Sundance Saloon staged a successful Sweetheart Ball... Greg Graziani was chosen Mr.

April 2002, and Niko Letunic was chosen Mr. May 2002... That cute Eric Bernier was chosen Mr. Edge Leather 2002, and Mr. Eagle John Bernal staged a "meet the contestants" beer/soda bust... San Diego staged their Leather Pride Week and named Lou Sedlacek Mr. San Diego Leather.

March

Doug Roenecke was chosen Mr. June on the Bare Chest calendar and went on to win the cover spot in December... Terry West won the Mr. July spot, too... Lynette Hadlock and Stephen Scott were named the first-ever Ms. And Mr. South Plains Leather in Dallas... Bryant Berg was chosen Mr. Salt Lake City Leather (woof!).... In San Francisco, Houston Davenport was named Mr. SF Leather 2001... Pete Fitz was named Mr. Los Angeles Leather... In Kansas City, Missouri, Bill Snook was named Mr. Dixie Belle Leather... In Philadelphia's Bike Stop, Patricia Croissan and Mark Collins were named Ms. and Mr. Philly Leather... In Amsterdam, Miro Civin was named Mr. Holland Leather... Mark Frulich won the Mr. August 2002 spot on the bare chest calendar... Mama "Reinhardt" was nominated as one of the grand Marshals in the Gay Pride Parade.

The last weekend of the month saw Michael Chappell win the Mr. Washington State Leather title... Daniel Vandenberg was named Mr. Pistons Leather; the 1st runner-up in this contest was Alex Marr, who also competed at IML.

April

Matt Mantia won the Mr. Boston Leather contest and was the first IML contestant to arrive at the pre-judging session completely nude!... The San Francisco next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Friday, December 21

Winter Solstice Party at the Eagle Tavern, featuring "Meat! Grog! Music!" Also Subarachnoid Space and the Cinnamon Girls. It all begins at 2000.

Exiles of SF present racey SM films for their annual "Porn Night" video fest featuring men and women. Women's Bldg. Doors open 1930, program from 2000 to 2200. Difficult parking in this neighborhood.

Monday, December 24

It's Christmas Eve! Mr. SF Drummer James Holloway hosts a Drummer Christmas Eve party at Daddy's from 2100 to midnight. Entertainment, raffles and "sparky" surprises. No other details.

Wednesday, December 26

Leather Buddies meet at 933 Harrison. Strict dress code: Leather, uniforms, latex and definitely

boots! No cologne and No sneakers! For info call 977-HEAD.

Saturday, December 29

The 15 Association final party of the year at the usual location. \$10 members, \$15 guests — who must arrive with you. All amenities. Call 673-0452, or email steve@backdoor.com.

Thursday, Jan 3, 2002

The Gauntlet II in Los Angeles holds its 17th anniversary party and the Mr. Gauntlet II 2002 contest. Pins! Fun!

Sunday, January 6

Bare Chest Calendar 2002 dinner-date auctions at the beer-bust from 1500-1800 at the Eagle. It's \$8 with food, laughs galore, and a benefit too! Lenny Broberg auctions off six of the 2002 calendar men. Don't miss this one!

PORN

Fall on your knees

Jeff Stryker wants to stuff your stocking

By John Karr

Jeff Stryker's entire career has been based upon the carefully calculated presentation of his dick. His personality and grooming have been treated secondarily, as if they were wrapping paper on a present, or like the showcase for a diamond. The diamond sparkles, all right, but the showcase itself, at least as presented in his new video, is scary.

After touring the country with a wreck of a stage show called *Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time* (which the producers optimistically called "a play"), Jeff has made it into a wreck of a video. Jeff may have thought he was making a movie, but the result is kind of hodge-podge. If you didn't see the stage version, you'll probably have no idea what's going on here. Bits of the show are jumbled in as souvenirs (I like how Jeff holds his bathrobe open during the curtain calls, fully aware that at all times he's upstaged by the real star of the show). Several sexy scenes shot expressly for the video (the "actors" auditioning for the show by having sex with Jeff and each other) alternate with chunks of footage of the stage show, most particularly a rape in a prison shower. Out of its theatrical context this brutal bit is rather ghoulish. The audience laughs; it's made them uncomfortable. Was it done to show Jeff's dramatic chops, or are we supposed to be turned on? Hard to tell, and hard to like. That's Entertainment?

Similar miscalculations abound. A filmmaker, Jeff ain't. A montage of Jeff's solo jack-off moments in the stage show looks pretty slick, but is intercut with that rape, again, and doesn't climax. Separating the scenes, a harshly filmed and badly recorded streetsinger brawls some mostly unintelligible lyrics of something that amounts to "The Ballad of Jeff Stryker." I suppose it's attest to Jeff's louche carnality, trying to point up "doing hard time" as a metaphor for fucking. But Jeff is always so literal. The show's prison setting escalated the unyielding hardness of his char-



Jeff Stryker doing 'Hard Time'

acter, and generally prevented the sort of identification the audience so longed for. He never kisses anyone; he's serviced, after which he fucks without emotion. He doesn't so much enjoy his partners as appraise them with a callous objectivity, like a horse trader at an auction. He does seem genuinely turned on by guys, which

makes me curious to watch some of the hetero flicks he's made; can he rhapsodize about pussy as mesmerizingly as he does about cock?

Slick second-rate hit man

So it's difficult to get much joy out of watching Jeff. His version of machismo, the innuendo of heroin-like catatonia, deglamorizes him. He reminds me of a minor Mafioso, some well-fed thug in a slick suit hangin' around on the outskirts of *The Sopranos*. Although tanned and svelte, Jeff is bilious, as if just below the skin there was something toxic. And then The Cock comes out, and all is, if not forgiven, then at least momentarily forgotten. In the video's opening scene, Jeff spins some hypnotic sex talk, and when the camera lets us peer upward from a cocksucker's perspective, his fleshy breasts are a massive backdrop, beautiful and silken with sweat. And the cock towering before them is a breathtaking embodiment of Vitruvian virtue: *Firmitas, utilitas, venustas; Firmness,*

utility, beauty. Okay, boys: fall on your knees.

This splendid, unhurried and highly absorbing scene of unabashed Jeff-worship is presented straightforward (no distracting camera tricks) in excellent videography, and accapella — the only music is Jeff's murmuring and the slurps and moans of the very attractive Randy Savino (lustrous hair, toned body, handsome cock, blissed-out expression). Randy gets The Mighty Organ out of Jeff's pants, spit polishes its blooming knob, deep throats it every which way, and takes it up the butt in several revealing positions, culminating in an awesome sit-down that churns up a strong orgasm.

This opening may be movie's high point, but there's a lot more to savor in its two-hour succession of scenes. Despite its incoherent construction, its sex scenes are well filmed and generally effective. A pair of stud muffins cavort before Jeff as they audition; two buff skinheads have a hot three-way with boffo bantam Daniel Stern; and in the finale, Jackson Price pops out of the audience at the stage show for what is supposed to be an impromptu bout with Jeff, and these two pros go confidently through their paces: Price's wideflung legs provide the most ample viewing of a Stryker insertion we've seen.

Yet Jeff seems distanced. He rarely stops the steely narration of his sex talk, which, combined with his façade so hardened it's about to crack, shades much of his sex as a soulless transaction. Strangely enough, offstage, Jeff is a doting father to his pre-school aged son, and reportedly the nicest, most copacetic guy. "He's an adorable Midwestern stoner boy," one privileged backstager alleged. Wish he'd show us that personality on film; I don't like to be repelled by something I'm attracted to, and right now, Jeff's like the proverbial car crash: you don't wanna look, but you have to.

Jeff's more accessible early career was molded by a team of savvy professionals. Perhaps if he asked nicely, they'd come back. ▼

Stryker info can be had at www.jeff-stryker.com; phone 1-800-542-2131

Mister Marcus

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leather community mourned the loss of both Philip Turner and Robert Miller... Rodger Jensen won the Triple R Mr. Leather title and later captured the Mr. North Coast Leather title... the Golden Gate Guards staged the Golden Dildeaux Awards to a record crowd with lots of laughs... Peter Jackson won the September spot on the calendar, and Joe Bonafeida won the October spot... In Washington, D.C., Phyllis Darcy was named American Leather Woman, Jeffrey Cooper was named American Leather Man, and Bryant Mullikan was named American Leather Boy... Kurt Cooper was named Mr. November on the 2002 calendar.

May

The AEF dinner this year, thanks to Glennon Sutter and his faithful committee, was held

aboard the SS Hornblower, gliding around SF Bay. It was a glorious night — big accolades to the committee... James Holloway and Jack Garcia were named SF Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy... the "Shower Power" going-away bash for Houston Davenport enroute to IML was a smash hit; IML 79 David Kloss swung his considerable appendage around in the shower and even aroused himself!... Doug Roenecke won the cover spot on the bare chest calendar and his (now EX) lover Peter was the runner-up for the back cover. In Chicago, thousands attended IML where 63 men vied for the title. When it was over, Stefan Mueller of Stuttgart, Germany won it, with Darrell Moyers the runner-up and our own Houston Davenport the 2nd runner-up... The first weekend of May saw the first regional Drummer contest in Dallas, with Billy Bob winning the Gulf Coast Drummer title with many more on the schedule.

June

Atlanta, Georgia's South East Leather Fest was well attended, where Darryl Fox won the Mr. Drummer title and Paul Ferriera the boy title, while Chance was named Ms. Leather Pride... The Int'l. Master and slave are not amenable to having their names or photos in print, so they're a double non-entity as far as the leather press is concerned... The Phoenix Uniform Club's Uniform Ball was the hit of Pride weekend, and almost a half-million people attended our parade... Robert Espindola and David McCarty were named Russian River Drummer winners... Lots of leather men who are U.S. military veterans participated in the Alexander Hamilton American Legion Post 15th anniversary... The final Int'l. Mr. Drummer judges were named.

The first six months of 2001 were full of leather action; tune in next week for a look-back at the final six months of the year! ▼

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photo (c) Brian Theis

OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon

Merry kosher comedy

For nine years in a row, Jewish lesbian comedian Lisa Geduldig has saved Christmas in San Francisco. This town pretty much goes to sleep in late December, except for churches, bars — and New Asia Restaurant in Chinatown, where Geduldig continues a holiday tradition with her "Kung Pao Kosher Comedy," about the only fun thing happening at this otherwise serious time of year.

This season's Kung Pao comedic line-up includes headliner Cathy Ladman, a frequent guest on *The Tonight Show* and the only female comic to appear on the last two *Johnny Carson Tonight*

Show Anniversary specials. Her extensive film credits include roles in *What Planet Are You From?*, *Don't Tell Mom the Babysitter's Dead*, *Nervous Ticks*, and *My Fellow Americans*. On television, she has a recurring role and has been a writer on *Caroline in the City*, and makes regular appearances on *Politically Incorrect* and *Dr. Katz: Professional Therapist*.

Lisa Kron, part of the Kung Pao line-up, is a founding member of the Obie and Bessie award-winning theater company, The Five Lesbian Brothers. She joins Geduldig and company with an impressive 16 years of writing and performing solo work. Recently she starred in the New York City production of *The Vagina Monologues*, and appeared in Paul Rudnick's *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told*. Her show *2.5 Minute Ride* earned her an Obie Award, an LA Dramalogue Award, and a GLAAD (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) Media Award.

From New York comes Scott Blakeman, a regular on TV and radio, at comedy clubs and festival. He was the only comedian to perform at Senator Joseph Lieberman's 50th birthday party (there must be a joke there somewhere). He does political humor on NPR and business humor for CNN. He received national acclaim as a straight actor playing the part of a gay man shopping with his lover in the IKEA TV commercial, which is in the permanent collection of the Museum of TV & Radio (where it sits gathering dust).

Your hostess, Lisa Geduldig, is the producer not only of this comedy fest, but of *Feygelah Schmeygelah*, *Funny Girlz*, and *Queer Comedy Quack Up*. She says her mother unintentionally writes most of her material.

Proceeds from this year's production benefit the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights commission and the Bay Area Jewish Healing Center. ▼

Kung Pao Kosher Comedy happens Dec. 23 (5pm dinner show, \$45; 8:30pm cocktail show, \$30); Dec. 24 (6pm dinner; 9:30pm cocktail); and Dec. 25 (5pm dinner; 8:30pm cocktail). New Asia Restaurant, 772 Pacific Ave. Phone 522-3737.



Cathy Ladman



Lisa Kron



Anjelica Devarox and Victoria Secret mastermind a special holiday "Fauxgirls" at Marlena's. See Saturday.

EAT

Theatre on the Square

Extended run: Lily Tomlin stars in Jane Wagner's play "The Search For Signs Of Intelligent Life In The Universe," now through February 3, 2002. Tomlin declares she's thrilled to be playing to "the most responsive, enthusiastic and generous audiences I could have hoped for" here in SF. \$30-\$50. 8:30pm. Also 3pm & 8:30pm on Sat.; 3pm & 7:30pm on Sun. No shows on December 23, 24, and 25. Two shows on Thursday, December 27 (3pm and 8pm). Tickets for the New Year's Eve show are \$50 & \$75. 450 Post St. Tix/info: 433-9500; www.theatreonthesquare.com

Eureka Theatre

Final performances: 42nd Street Moon closes its 2001 season with Cole Porter's *Leave It To Me!*, his 1938 collaboration with Sam and Bella Spewack (his co-authors for *Kiss Me, Kate*). Local cabaret favorite Darlene Popovic stars in this typical Porter confection about a Kansas wife who maneuvers her unwilling husband into international politics. The show will also be recorded in a CD co-sponsored by a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts and approved by the Cole Porter Trusts. Directed by Greg MacKellar, with musical direction by Dave Dobrusky and choreography by Jayne Zaban. \$25. 8pm

Thursdays-Fridays; 6pm Saturdays; 2pm Sundays.

Thru Dec. 23, 215 Jackson St. (btwn Battery and Front)

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Now Playing: *The Crumple Zone*, a West Coast Premiere Comedy By Buddy Thomas, Directed by Stephen Rupsch.

This surprise off-Broadway 2000 season smash hit and winner of the New Voices Play award is the show Liz Smith called "a little gem." Set in a run-down apartment on Staten Island, this hilarious gay comedy concerns three gay roommates coming to

crisis during one frantic Christmas weekend. Thru January 12, 2002, Weds.-Sat. at 8 pm, & selected Sundays at 2pm. Matinees: 12/23, 12/30, 1/3 1/6 at 2pm, 25 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 861-8972; www.nctcsf.org

Lumiere Theatre

Opening night screening: "The Turandot Project," a film by documentarian Allan Miller, a must for opera lovers (and anyone looking for entertainment on Christmas day). Said reviewer Mark Holcomb in the *Village Voice*: "Miller trails conductor Zubin Mehta from Florence to Beijing to

stages Puccini's warhorse with the participation of an honest to goodness Chinese citizen, filmmaker Zhang Yimou. Mehta's bugbear here is authenticity—*Turandot* is set in ancient China." The back-stage goings-on captured on film prove as opulently melodramatic as the overblown opera. Daily at 5:10, 7:25, & 9:45pm; plus Fri.-Sun., 12:30 & 2:45pm. Thru Dec. 28. Landmark's Lumiere Theatre, California at Polk. Info: 352-0810; www.landmarktheatres.com

Red Vic Movie House

"Rock Star," director Stephen Herek's film loosely based on a true story involving Judas priest and a young fan from Akron, Ohio. Mark Wahlberg stars as Chris "Izzy" Cole, a copy machine repairman from Pittsburgh who at night dons eyeliner and leather pants as the lead singer in Blood Pollution. Co-starring Jennifer Aniston. Fri. 7:15 & 9:35pm; also Sat., Dec. 22, 2, 4:30; 7:15 & 9:35pm. \$6.50 adults. 1727 haigh St. Info: 668-3994; www.redvicmoviehouse.com

Roxie Cinema

Romeo & Juliet, director Baz Luhrmann's brilliant 1996 po-mo film adaptation of the Shakespearean classic, featuring dazzling performances by everyone involved, especially Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes as the doomed lovers. Luhrmann (*Moulin Rouge*) has relocated the tale to a modern metropolis as chaos reigns supreme and warring gangs compete for turf with machine guns. It's all vividly surreal and potent. Unlike the sinking *Titanic*, this DiCaprio vehicle soars with imagination and energy. \$7 adults. (\$4 first show Sat.; discount cards available). Fri. & Sat., 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:30pm. 3117 16th St. (at Valencia). Info: 863-1087; www.roxie.com

SomArts Cultural Center

Eclipse Dance Theatre presents "The Passage," a Burning Man-style multimedia celebration of the Winter Solstice. Featuring Lumin (Mid East drum 'n' bass), Rosin coven (pagan lounge), Bay Adere (klezmer, jazz), Jou Jou (woman's a cappella), Eclipse Dance Theater, Judy Cohen & Deborah Ben-Eliyzer, Samantha Blanchard, Delphine Mei & Isaac Bradford (butoh dance), and DJ HappyFT. \$15-\$20 sliding. 8pm show (costume encouraged); 10pm healing ritual & drumming circle; 11pm DJ & dancing. 934 Brannan St. (btwn 8th & 9th). Info/tix: 550-7915.

Davies Symphony Hall

San Francisco Symphony presents J.S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* with Helmuth. Info: 826-7378

Rilling, conductor, Kendra colton, soprano, Iris Vermillion, mezzo-soprano, Marcus Ullmann, tenor, Dietrich Henschel, baritone, and the SFS Chorus. A monumental celebration of the nativity story. \$15-\$71. 8pm. Tix/info: 864-6000; sfsymphony.org

1015 Folsom

"Merry Psychofundiscodeolic," with sleigh-bell rockin' by DJs Laron, Solar and Laird, with Mistress Barbara, Giani, Jason Edwards, Leon Roberts, Rafael, and Melvin J. \$20 (free b4 10:30pm). 10pm-6am. Info: 273-1170.

Sat

Marlena's

Special holiday show: "Fauxgirls!" presenting drag cabaret at its best, showcasing both glamour and camp. Co-hosted by Anjelica Devarox and "En Drag" creator Victoria Secret. Featuring the talents of Reality, Donna Rae, Miss Bliss, Mona Lott, Mini Minerva and special guest stars. No cover. 10pm. 488 Hayes St. (at Octavia). Info: 864-6672; www.sfdrag.com

Aunt Charlie's Lounge

"Girls Just Wanna Have Fun!" a drag revue hosted by Kristy Cruise, Grand Duchess XXVI of SF. No cover. 10pm & midnight. 133 Turk St. (at Taylor). Info: 441-2922; www.sfdrag.com

Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center

"Show Up!" a high-energy entertainment by New Pickle Circus, an ensemble of circus artists performing zany clown antics and fantastic physical feats, including hand balancing by Aidan O'Shea and Aimee Hancock, slack-rope walking by Beth Clarke, and teeterboard balancing by Circus Center's top tumblers, Jive, Matt White and Will Underwood. Plus foot juggling, hoop diving, cloud swing, and trapeze. Featuring an all-new score by hip-hop band Felonious. It's an interactive show with stagehands, ushers and audience members participating in the fun. \$12-\$28. 2pm & 7:30pm. Thru Jan. 1 (no show on Dec. 25). Tix/info: 759-8123; www.circuscenter.org

26 Mix

DJ's Tactical and Wheels of Fortune steer "LA Machine," a queer electronic synthesizer dance cube for new wavers, electro-hackers, hybrids and androids. New and old electronica ranging from the Human League, New Order, Peaches, Chicks on Speed, Le Rhythme Digitales, and Adult. \$5. 10pm-2am. 3024 Mission St. (btwn 26th and Cesar Chavez). Info: 826-7378;



Leora Goodhue (Darlene Popovic) is the driving force behind the political career of her complacent husband (Richard Pardini) in 42nd St. Moon's "Leave It To Me!" at Eureka theatre. See Friday.



Women's a cappella group Jou Jou join Eclipse Dance Theatre in "The Passage" at SomArts. See Friday.

www.26mix.com

Club Universe

Santa himself will tell you if you've been naughty or nice as you shimmy and shake to the DJ grooves of Matthew Baker and David Harness. Enjoy the flawless bodies of SF's most pumped-up dance queens. An all-night ordeal. \$14 (free w/pass b4 11pm), 9:30pm-7am. 21+w/ID. Info: clubuniverse.com

Syn

Davies Symphony Hall
San Francisco Symphony presents "The Wondrous Sounds of Christmas," featuring the San Francisco Saxophone Quartet, Douglas Rieth, harp, Karen Gottlieb, harp, Charles Rus, organ, Catherine Payne, piccolo, Raymond Froelich, percussion, and Michael Burr, bass. With audience sing-alongs, Baroque classics, and season favorites. \$10-\$48. 2pm & 7pm. Tix/Info: 864-6000; sfsymphony.org

Roxie Cinema

Vincent, Paul Cox's 1988 portrait of Vincent Van Gough, a shattering journey through the life of a tortured genius. Actor John Hurt reads passages from Van Gough's diaries and letters. 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:15pm. 3117 16th St. (at Valencia). Info: 863-1087; www.roxie.com

1015 Folsom

Get in the dance groove at "Spundae," featuring DJs Jonathan Ojeda, Madame, Mercury, and A:Dub, a high-energy, trancy, kick-ass dance club featuring top-notch mix-

ing and great spirits. It's draws a mixed crowd, but its roots are firmly in the gay scene. 10pm-5:30am. Info: 267-0568; 974-9389; www.spundae.com

Mon 24

Roxie Cinema
Casablanca. Grab your honey and head to the Mission to catch sight once again of Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Paul Henreid, Claude Rains, Peter Lorre, Sidney Greenstreet and Dorothy Wilson stirring up romance and intrigue during World War II. Today at 2, 4:30 & 7pm; Christmas Day at 2, 4:30, 7, & 9:15pm. 3117 16th St. (at Valencia). Info: 863-1087; www.roxie.com

Tue 25

Christmas Day
Peace on Earth!

Wed 26

Geary Theater

Spalding Gray returns with his award-winning monologue, *Swimming to Cambodia*, a special non-subscription presentation, playing six performances only. Gray tells the story of how he landed a role in Roland Joffe's Academy Award-winning film *The Killing Fields* and became

deeply affected by the Cambodian setting and the war-torn nation's history and people. A soul-searching, irreverent meditation on sex, drugs, death and politics. \$15-\$45. 8:30pm. Thru Dec. 31. 415 Geary St. Tix/Info: 749-2228; www.act-sfbay.org

Roxie Cinema

"Pre-Code rarities," a trio of scandalous flicks: *Devil's Holiday* (1930; 2:50 & 7:20pm), in which a scheming man-curator marries the son of a wealthy businessman as her ticket to easy street; *Girl Without A Room* (1933; 4:30 & 8:50pm), a witty, sexy send-up of the Parisian art scene, involving (of course) a naive American art student who gets mixed up with a wild group of unconventional characters; and *Her Bodyguard* (1933; 1:30 & 10:15pm), about a gold-digging Broadway showgirl who pits her sugar daddy against her producer paramour, only to take up with her hunky bodyguard. 3117 16th St. (at Valencia). Info: 863-1087; www.roxie.com

SFMOMA

Open for holiday viewing (the museum is usually closed Wednesdays). Exhibitions include *Ansel Adams at 100* (closes January 13); *Ultra-baroque: Aspects of Post-Latin American Art*, with works by 16 artists from South America, Mexico and the US; *Judith Rothschild: An Artist's Search*, a retrospective of the New York-based artist; and *Points of Departure II: Connecting with Contemporary Art*, featuring works from the museum's permanent collection presented in an unconventional, themat-

ic way. \$10 adults; \$7 seniors; \$6 students; under-12 free. 11am-6pm. 151 Third St. Info: 357-4000; www.sfmoma.org

Thu 27

Roxie Cinema

"Hollywood Exotica," a double-bill of romantic comedies: *The Princess Comes Across* (1936; 3:15, 6:30 & 9:40pm), in which showgirl Carole Lombard impersonates a Swedish princess in order to attract handsome bandleader Fred MacMurray; and *Trade Winds* (1938; 1:30, 4:45 & 8pm), which follows SF heiress Joan Bennett as she flees to the Orient in order to dodge a bum murder rap and debonair cop Fredric March. 3117 16th St. (at Valencia). Info: 863-1087; www.roxie.com

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PARTING GLANCES

I Could Go On Singing
You looking at Judy Record in Castro, cute and brave. Me: at payphone, on bike. We smiled and talked briefly. Are you that Steve? ☎ 71208

Midnight Sun, Sun 11/11 @ 7hr.
You: Gray hair, jeans, unbuttoned green shirt, positive interaction with friends, seemingly shy. Me: khakis, blue shirt, standing under TV, not good at bar talk. Disappointed that I didn't communicate. ☎ 71209

Trapeze Boy W/ Toe Polish
Wed. before Thanksgiving. Steamworks. You live: Walnut Creek/ San Ramon. Enjoyed our wrestle. Want to tussle again. You referred to me as "you people". Give a call. ☎ 71230

Flower Market Monday 11/19 9am
I drove up in a white convertible. You were standing there. Beautiful smile, blond, a hoop in each ear. Our eyes met. You waved goodbye. Clearly, we need to connect. ☎ 71231

Walking On Hyde Street
Enjoyed our conversation. Me: coming from B. Peters Concert. You: coming home from work. Please call. ☎ 71232

Castro @ 15th 11/24 Woof!
You stopped for me twice. I should have said hi; bit shy. You thick goatee, cap, jeans. Me: start looking for parking. Met again on Castro across from theatre. ☎ 71233

Valentine In Glen Park
You: tall, cute w/great smile. I was walking home from Bart. You: looking for parking. Met again on Castro across from theatre. ☎ 71249

Terrier Jim Danced @ Nob Hill 12/2 with Gusto & asked my name & was pleased I stayed for 2nd show. (Doubled my pleasure). Can we talk? ☎ 71362

DimIt's Safeway Mon 12/3 Chktout
Check-out-you: dark br and running outfit. Me: SF cap, parka, gr br, skirttail out. We cruised in line. At door looked again, I smiled, parking lot again. Call. ☎ 71363

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Young Cute Russian
Is looking for another cultured intelligent Russian, European or American for serious relationship. Must be sexy and under 40 y.o. ☎ 71201

Truly Sweet Guy Wanted! By X-mas
U.B. W/LA into nature, plants, travel, general health, reasonably fit, attractive & stylish. Me: Asian-Latin, 5'9", 150, brwn, no stereotypes, only long term relations. ☎ 71211

Looking For Men With Brown Eyes
Olive skin for buffed 37 year blond hair, blu man, with big muscular arms and a nice round ass. Versatile, HIV+, smooth, great legs. ☎ 71212

Win This Prize
Goodlooking WM, 6'2", physically & mentally fit, late thirties, brown hair, blue/green eyes, athletic, unpretentious academic, warm, interested in meeting a sincere guy 25-45. Let's talk. ☎ 71213

Affectionate Guy Seeks Same
Warmly masculine, working-class, attractive 48yo, GWM, fit at 6'3" & 175lbs, seeks physical/emotional connection with clean-living, sensual, masculine G/bi WM. ☎ 71214

Monogamous Muscular Man
Seeks same 40-55, HIV-neg., with sensitive nips for dating (TV, movies, dining) & playtime in S.F. I'm Asian, 5'7", 150#, 40c, 30w, HIV-neg. NS, no anal. ☎ 71215

Ideal Husband
GWM, 52, 6ft, 200 lbs, passionate, healthy, responsible professional. Interested: cats, music, word, dance, You: HIV- thin, romantic non-smoker. ☎ 71216

WLM 45, 6', 165lbs. ISO Older M 55+ who enjoys affection, kissing & oral pleasure. Regular cigar or pipe smoker, non-gym, facial hair a plus. No gay lifestyle, drugs, attitude. ☎ 71234

Small Penis Seeks Same
Under 6' a/w smooth clean shaven w/ w/b: curious goodlooking new to S.F. for steady oral relationship, maybe poke my bottom? ☎ 71235

Navy Vet- 6'2" 225#
Study educated, successful Sonoma Rancher. GWM buzzed flat top haircut. Healthy 55yrs. Seeks younger man for mentoring platonic companionship. Interested hopefully enjoy reading, writing, thinking, conversation, travel, city country. ☎ 71236

Latin, Hairy Or Shorter Guys
How about a date? Attractive, masculine, fun, SUV, 5'9", 155#, buzzed dark blond, goatee, muscular, HIV-, 44, versatile seeks regular guy for movies, dinners, travel, etc. ☎ 71250

*Asian Tops~
Desired by GWM 6'2", 165lbs, who is a bottom and enjoys giving pleasure to Asian men by sucking deep for a long time. ☎ 71251

Skip Ltr Or Dating Relationship
Late 40's GWM, 5'9", fury bear, 185#, amply hung, single, clean and healthy, some leather bottom tendencies. Don't have a definite type or age, but young at heart. ☎ 71252

HIV+ Latino
Goodlooking, healthy, 30yr old, 5'7", 160lbs, seeks Whites or Latinos under 43 w/ friendship maybe more. N/S only. Not into clubs, drug scene. ☎ 71254

Oral Expert
Black male 5'9", 158 48
Navy-shaved head seeks GWM 50 to 65 that's well endowed for hours of joy! ☎ 71355

LTR With Younger Latino Guy
40ish stocky, well endowed versatile top, professional, not in shape, for younger Latino guy, no attitude, love, romantic travel much more. ☎ 71364

I Am Turkish GWM 29, 5'4" 135
Nice, beautiful, slim, ideal. Good loyal, pleasant, serious. I'm looking for Turk, GM from 24 to 32 for love, understanding, friends. Please serious replies only, discretion. ☎ 71365

Dad ISO Bottom Boys
Hot muscular dad, thick hairy chest late 40, 5'8", 185, well built ISO cute boyish bottom. 35, HIV- possible relationship. ☎ 71367

Searching For Mr. Right
In all the wrong places looking for White male honest sincere a good person good friend long term in shape HIV- Me WM 41 good looking honest HIV- East Bay. ☎ 71368

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Tantric JO
JO adventurer seeks same to wallow shamelessly in intense male energy, prolonged edging, egoless ecstasy, and mindblowing orgasms. Physical contact unnecessary. Any age, toys, etc. ok. ☎ 71217

VGL Hung BM Seeks Affluent Male
Vgl, 31 yr old BM, physique model, 5'11", cleancut, smooth muscular 195lbs, hair 9 1/2", college educated for loving, seeks generous, affluent male any age/weight for friendship/fun. ☎ 71222

Dad ISO Bear/Cub
GWM in S.F. 66, 5'9", 155# HIV-white beard active healthy N/D, N/S seeks clean mass guy over 40 with beard/stache who enjoys being kissed massaged stroked J/O. ☎ 71218

European Boy For Training
Looking for any training from a young dominant master in his 20's or 30's. You won't be disappointed. Full submissive guaranteed. ☎ 71219

Do Rank Pits/Jockstraps
Give you a boner? Me too. Major jock/pit guy seeks buds 4 snif/suck fun. I'm 5'8", 150, hry, buzzed, tatts, beard ripe ready. A+ yg, butch, gimme a call! ☎ 71220

Pro Cocksucker And HIV- Bottom
You're not alone big stock or lean guys. Am here to give hot, steamy gyrating movements on all my orifices. Name it, I'll do it. Am Asian, 30's and hot. ☎ 71221

Mutual Oral
W male 55yrs, slim, hairy, hung, uc, HIV- seeks W male 50 to 60yrs old, hairless, HIV- for mutual oral play + + low hangers. ☎ 71224

GBM ISO White Cockslucker
170lb 6ft 39 poz GBM seeks smooth slim GWM submissive bottom. A+ for cute nerdy small build boys. ☎ 71225

Weightlifting Nude
Have bench, barbell, dumbbells, strip down, workout, or watch me workout. 48, 5'9", 190. ☎ 71226

Hungry Bear Manypussy
GWM, 43, 220lbs. Love to get fucked, and suck on meat. Ethnic a plus! West Sonoma County location. ☎ 71237

ISO Stocky Bottom Bear
To suck my 7"x6" cut cock and balls, eat my clean asshole. Me 5'9", 155#, 60's gray/grn daddy type nice guy. My place, days only, herb, aroma ok, hairy + +. ☎ 71238

Vers. Fisting Top Kinky
Fisting fucking vers, top handies yellow, red, blue. Blk male 40, 5'8", 185 into pumps, video fisting and other kinks. Your place anytime. ☎ 71239

Experience My Juicy Talent
Trim WM 50 gl short beard friendly, has hot mouth for horny Black boy 25+. UB clean, considerate, ready to unload, facefuck A+. Eye contact, verbal A+. Repeats welcome. ☎ 71241

Ride My Bushy Mustache
Hot 42 6', 170# brn/blu seeks hot trim butts to slide down my long tongue. George. ☎ 71242

Space Monkey
Remember Space Monkey in "Fight Club"? Buzzcut, hairy, tough, muscled little fucker? This 5'8", 140# hairy muscled skinnedhead wants his space monkey buddy to workout, wrestle, party, fuck with. ☎ 71243

My Big Dick-- Your Hot Ass
Plowman 6'4" 190lbs 9"cock will stretch your buthole for prolonged mutual enjoyment. Minorities welcome. Cocksuckers and rimmers ok. ☎ 71244

Seeking Asian Warmth
Attractive, gym-toned athletic, professional top to versatile, 47, 6ft, HIV+ healthy-looking GWM seeks cuddly, small romantic guy for intimacy, good conversation & maybe more. ☎ 71245

Dick Size Doesn't Matter!
Hairy, muscular body does SF GWM offers stress-reduction for married man 30+ over 5'9" hairy chest, arms, legs, who enjoy just kicking back for massage and servicing. ☎ 71356

Hot N Horny 4 Mild 2 Wild Play
I'm hairy Asian needs sex buddy, playmate. You: 18-45 only, 5'7" to 6'5" or taller. Any race welcome. Let's have fun. ☎ 71357

Naked Fantasies
Photography, strip poker, cop strip search, prison guard, or you name it. Straight-acting masculine guy 43 with lean build seeks similar guy 20 to 40s. ☎ 71358

*Healthy Poz Seeks Same~
For fuckbuddy in shape 52"vers/ top 5'9" 155 gr. eyes brn hair, muscular, handsome, grounded, easy going. Ub2, Hd/Wt proportionate. N/D, herb ok smoke OK please no emotional baggage. ☎ 71359

Sonoma County Oral Service
Hot GWM, 35, looking for oral service. I'm very fit & need relief. We are both HIV-. Give me a call. ☎ 71369

*Student Wanted~
Uncut British professor and cut partner (both 50, slim) seek uncut submissive boy (18-30) for fun and games and good food. ☎ 71370

Big, Fat, Chubby Men
GBM, 5'11", 250lbs, 48y. o. seeks big, fat, & chubby men for passionate sexual encounters, & mutual attentive love making. ☎ 71374

Material Muscular Athlete
Italian/Spaniard, attractive, green eyes, 34, straight material type, healthy and DDF. Seeks other material muscular athletes only, of any race. No fems or fats. Enjoys sports and pumping iron. ☎ 71371

In Search Of: Uncut Men In Noe Valley
around Douglass St. and 21st. Free blowjobs at my place. Strt. Bi-Gay. Regular basis? Age unimportant. ☎ 71372

Erotic Rope Bondage
Expert bondage top, GWM, 43, 5'8", 160, good looking, athletic, HIV-, seeks masculine in-shape bottom, 21-40, for challenging erotic bondage. Gags, toys, light S/M. Discreet, trustworthy. SF or East Bay. ☎ 71223

Looking To Service
Guys 45-55 who are in good shape, easy going, verbal, hairy 4+. Melding, healthy HIV+, 45, 5'8", 160, bby/gaatee, love to be on my knees. ☎ 71373

X-Navy 37 GWM Hot Top Man
Furry muscle top looking for new recruits for buttcamp. Me. 5'9", 185, smooth and built. ☎ 71240

FETISHES

We'll Never Know
If my creative/compassionate cock-sucking (ccc) makes you shout 6/8/10 feet because A. You'll hardly be shooting in the clear. B. You'll prefer that way! ☎ 71360

Looking For Daddy Type Or More
25, looking for some dominance. Take control. Into many things, leather S/M others, open to any suggestions; and I'm cute. So don't miss out on this one. Hope to see you soon. ☎ 71361

FF Top
GWM 58 6'5", 250# HIV- top nice big hands wants GWM 30+ bottom HIV- for fun times. Herb aroma +. Call me. ☎ 71228

Cigar Pig
GWM 45 5'9", 175 shaved head. Nasty leather pig with cigar fetish. Up for cigar smoking leather for nasty smoking sex. ☎ 71249

CBT Handball Tapping Pulling
Toe to toe sensuous to serious play, weights, one on one or group. GWM, 40yo, in shape, goodlooking whairy chest seeks same. ☎ 71246

Luv Toys Play... So Do I !!!!!!!
Mutual gratification thru safe play: Bi-male late 40's, clean, std/free, seeking male or female for erotic sessions. No sex, limits respected. ☎ 71247

European Slave-Boy For Training
Mutual/reciprocal sensual arousal and orgasm denial. Many options negotiable. Fit experienced devotee seeks same. Oakland pro 55 bald bearded 5'8" 165#. ☎ 71248

Clean, Quiet, Secure, Erotic...
Sex slave senior fit and eager needs a good beating to make him submit. Prefer straight married. ☎ 71375

Middle Age Oakland Black Man
Enjoys receiving a quick fix before work (6 a.m.) or before bed (11p.m.) Too big for beginners. Please no voice-mail #', beards or goatees. Serious suckers only please. ☎ 71376

Dominant Handsome Cigar Cap
40's in shape seeking bottom for sexual threesome have one bottom slim 50 GWM sucks cock, need a rimmer in shape- role playing, weekday mornings. ☎ 71377

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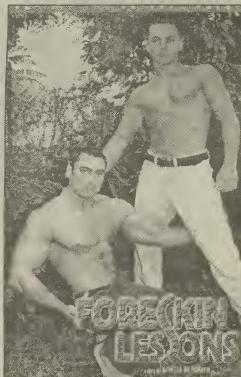
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Chorus concert

◀ Arts cover

I'm here for a reason," he said. Dale Murphy, a ten year veteran of the group, was inspired to join the chorus after seeing "Home for the Holidays" in 1991. "I hadn't sung in fifteen years and I haven't taken a break since I started," he said.

Michael Levy, in his first season with the chorus, was also inspired by the holiday concert. "I wanted to audition, but I hesitated for a year," he said. "I finally got up the nerve."

Bob Dinsmore shared two separate conversations he had while taking ticket orders for the concert. One man ordered a single ticket over the phone, and one gentleman climbed the office stairs with difficulty to purchase his single ticket. Both men said the concert is important to them "because it's my Christmas."

"It's my favorite concert," said Dave Gooding who's been in the chorus for 14 years. "The idea of 'home' is really true to the word - we bring it back home to the Castro."

Evolution

The world's first gay men's chorus began in 1978 when a group of gay men stood on the steps of San Francisco City Hall and sang a memorial hymn the night Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk were assassinated.

Since then the group has garnered acclaim touring across the country and abroad, making their Carnegie Hall debut this past June. Almost 200 gay and lesbian choruses nation-wide have

formed as a result of their leadership.

The chorus' first decade was about gay pride; its second decade focused on surviving the ravaging years of the AIDS epidemic. The chorus that now numbers 200 has lost more than 200 members to AIDS, who are memorialized in each program and concert as "The Fifth Section."

Direction

As the chorus approaches its 25th anniversary, a new course is being charted under the leadership of Dr. Kathleen McGuire who is in her second season as Artistic Director.

"There's a lot of transition going on, and it's a very exciting and challenging time for us," she said.

The aim of this new direction is "giving back," as the group's community outreach and benefit concerts have recently grown from 6 to 30 performances a year. Last season's "Giving Back" concert benefited women's organizations; this season's benefit, titled "Tomorrow's Child," will support youth programs.

This direction has been a response to economic changes that have impacted nonprofit and charitable organizations.

"We need to help each other out," said McGuire. "We want to say 'yes' to as many people as we can. Instead of going under like a lot of nonprofits, we're changing and getting back to grass roots."

For the first time, "Home for the Holidays" will go on tour, performing in Santa Rosa and in Modesto to benefit local AIDS and charitable organizations.

"The singers get a lot more out of it when you're a performance-based versus rehearsal-based group," said McGuire.

"The outreach concerts are the most fun," said Murphy. "Because the audiences are so appreciative of what we do."

Audition

The chorus' first woman Artistic Director initially thought that she was a long shot for the job. A native Australian, McGuire received her Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of Colorado and was in Boulder when she saw the job announcement.

"I applied thinking I didn't have a chance, and when I saw my name on the list of candidates I thought, 'well maybe they need a woman in there,'" she said. "When they asked to fly me out for an audition, I thought 'maybe they're serious!'"

The audition included McGuire teaching the chorus a work of her choice so she taught them her arrangement of Shocking Blue's "Venus."

"It includes the line, 'She's got it, yeah baby she's got it' which I thought might be a bit of good luck," she said.

"She was the best clinician, the best artist and the most qualified," said Gooding, who is also the President of the Board of Directors. "We chose her because we want to grow artistically. It was never even an issue that she was a woman."

"I need to respect and like the conductor," said German-born Joachim Voss who's in his first season with the chorus and whose credits include eight years with the Gay Men's Chorus of Hamburg. "I really adore her. She's one of the most outstanding conductors I've ever worked with."

Yeah baby, she's got it.

Emotion

Anyone who's seen the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus perform knows that their most distinctive quality is not that they're all gay and not that they're all men; it's their ability to evoke powerful emotions with song.

Prior to presenting a mini-version of their holiday concert for two dozen wheelchair-bound residents of Laguna Honda Hospital, the group welcomed the parents of a chorus member (who were visiting from Ohio) by linking arms and singing a sublime rendition of "The Irish Blessing."

Their sound is that of one gentle, soaring voice that rolls over and embraces the listener as it touches the heart. Their repertoire ranges from classical to playful, with flourishes of high camp (their sing-along "Hallelujah Chorus" features one of the most inspired sight gags you'll ever see).

"Home for the Holidays" includes the original song "We've Lost Our Brother," a tribute to Mark Bingham and the gay and lesbian victims of September 11th. Written by first-year chorus member Bruce Carpenter, this powerful number epitomizes what the chorus does best. (Be prepared to get very verklempt.)

Founded in mourning, forged in pride, joy, brotherhood and loss, the chorus has mastered an open-hearted, unafraid way of facing tragedy and pain, and responding to it with unity, dignity and beauty.

As you listen to these many voices that join as one, the unflattering light of the rehearsal hall, and all else that is insignificant in life fades away. ▼

SF Gay Men's Chorus "Home for the Holidays" plays the Castro Theatre on Dec. 24 at 5 p.m., 7 p.m. & 9 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Box office: 4053 18th St. (at Hartford). Info: 865-3650; www.sfgmc.org

Lavender Tube

◀ page 32

that didn't help her cachet either.

The problem with *Ellen* is there is no audience for the show. The gay aspect dims as time goes on, and queers are over Ellen; watching is like a pity f---. If this show gets renewed, it will be a Christmas miracle — or she's doing someone at CBS.

Our vote for the best show of 2001? ABC's *Politically Incorrect*. Edgy in a network arena where thinking outside the box is verboten, Bill Maher has excellent instincts for taking on the issues. This is the only show on network TV that always presents all sides, that always features the viewpoints of people of color, women, non-Christians, queers and those

with politics left or right of the mainstream. Maher puts his money where his big mouth is. He's an anomaly: the environmentally, politically conscious conservative who spends personal and political capital on what's right, not what's expedient.

Finally, as the year draws to a close, we would remind our TV viewers that 9-11 taught us a terrible lesson about life's fragility. Thus while it may seem counter to what we do here, we would abjure you to make this resolution for the new year: Watch less TV. Create your own realities. Be with people. Trust us on this one — when the plane is crashing or the world is ending, you will not be replaying episodes of *QAF* in your head.

Have a happy New Year. And may 2002 bring some semblance of peace to us here and abroad. ▼

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San Jose Full Body - Swedish - CMT
\$30/Hr-\$45 1 1/2 Hr. In Calls Only.
8AM until 10PM-7 days - Showers
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Nude Full Body + More/hung stud 8'
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24 HOURS
JASON, CMT
(415) 929-9224

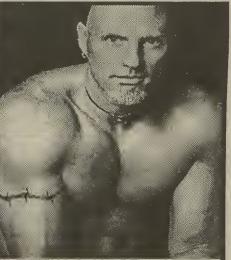
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SPORTS MASSAGE
FOR MEN & WOMEN
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Butt Adventures
Journey into butt attention. Explore rare exotic BUTT TECHNIQUES delightfully blended into FULL BODY massage. By appointment. \$80. San Bruno.
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Dean 6'6" 235 lbs.
Certified Massage Therapist
Full Body-Swedish-Sensual
\$75/In
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ThePowerOfTouch.com

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GORGEOUS ASIAN

Sensual Massage by young, cute
smooth Asian guys. In/Out.
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HAIRY CHESTED GUY
full body full release massage
done in the nude by a very nice
looking naturally hairy guy!
(650) (510) (415) (408)(925)
Outcalls (510) 912-8812 • Brice E51

**Relaxing
Sensual
Cute**
Massage by Eduardo
415-238-6055

CONCORD CONNECTION

In these troubled times, I assist in comforting & relaxing your tense body & spirit by my erotic touch and healing energy. Call Raul at 925-689-2404 Email: NergyXchange69@aol.com E51

CONSISTENTLY TOLD:

"The best massage I've ever had!" Very gdkg, muscular and friendly Therapeutic or erotic (hung big). Available 12/25-29. Bobby 619-368-8284 E51

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Hard smooth defined masculine build warm sensual powerful hands CMT. Nice digerido In/Out (415) 310-2930 E51

TENSION RELEASE
Sensual/Swedish/Deep Tissue massage. 7+yrs CMT. 6AM-Midnight. Bert 415-401-8883 E51

EAST BAY MASSAGE

Deep Relaxation. Non-Sexual. Mark, \$55/Hr. 510-653-1467 E52

AROMATHERAPY
Erotic, nude massage Mexican 25 y/o 150 Lbs, good looking Call Luis 505-837-0513 E51
Exotic, Erotic Nude Massage • Hung 9" • ReliefTension + Load • 923-1610 E51

NAKED HOT RUBDOWN
Given by lean smooth guy with hot butt-mutual touch is great. Very erotic. Call Scott * 921-1550 E51

REAL MASSAGE

Prof. CMT, deep tissue work for back/neck pain, injury rehab, relaxation. Tim Rowe 505-4198. 7 days/wk 9am-11pm 50/hr all welcome E51

MODELS

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs

ASIAN TOP

\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817

Mike, 36, 5'10", 200#, Bl/Blu Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932 E52

Handsome hung Italian 34, 6', 160 CHOKE ON THIS!

Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs all top masc dominant real 10x gentle strength & arousing edge inflnt, verbal, kink-2/vanilla outcalls/hottubs/trail Bay Area 415-256-6743 TomBuStonexxx@aol.com E52

Get Naked/Relax/Hug/Release/ Oral/8' Nudist 346-4966/Ken/\$80 E52

**AFFECTIONATE
*****STUD*******

25 GWM 6' 190lbs 32sts Big Legs 7" cut Hot BubbleButt CleanCut Masculine Versatile In/Out 24/7 PAGE ME 415-227-7727 E52

Holiday ad deadlines are changed for the weeks of Christmas and New Year.

Issue date Dec. 27, 2001: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001

Issue date Jan 3, 2002: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001

MODEL/ESCORTS

**hot escort +
sensual erotic massage
Chris Fox**

fun · friendly · frisky
call me tonight
(415) 270-7887
outcall only

also available for stripdance & travel · coming soon - chrisfoxlovesyou.com

recent photo by Julian-Supermail.com

NAUGHTY
And Sooo
NICE...
HOT
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RICH
5'9-210-TATS-UNCUT-FF
SEXY-VERY MASCULINE
MILD TO WILD
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Tom BuStone
SF BAY AREA


Handsome Hairy Hung
6' 180# 35 All Top
Reliable Professional Trustworthy Open-Minded Discreet Safe
Vanilla Kink Domination Fetish Play Role Play Massage
HOT!

It's your money - Demand Quality
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Calls returned in 5 mins.
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PIERCED • 6'1" • 155+ • TLC


9" 24 hrs, 24 hrs, 24 hrs
Dark blonde hair
hazel eyes
washboard stomach
27" waist + versatile
Call anytime 837-8900
for immediate callback

LEATHER KINK
LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS
TAKING HIS TIME, TALL &
BUILT, FULL PLAYROOM.
RICK 431-0959

Cute young guy slender, muscular
passionate energy In/out will travel
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20Y/O ASIAN SKATER DUDE


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GET OFF AFTER HOURS
friday - saturday
midnight-4am

\$5
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play
room
in/out
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40 5'11" 180
beginners welcome!

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5'7" 135# sexy, slim, smooth 908-8888

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Hot, horny, handsome \$65in/\$85out

Asian 31 5'7" 135 Tom 412-7261

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E02

21, NEW IN TOWN!
5'9", 135#, 6'c, Thin Swimmer's Build,
Great Legs & Ass, Cute, Boyish & Playful.
In-Out, Specialty/Open Minded. 24/7.
Nick: 415-414-4200.

E01

BOY TOYS WANTED

U B young + in good shape! Now
hiring, established Agency lookin' 4
new talent. Call 24/7 415 596-7386

E51

Union Square 415-303-0252

Hung Top 24hrs In/Out

E51

SAN JOSE STUDENT

Justin, 24 6'2", 175 cte,
Naturally smooth runners build,
awesome endowment, In/Out 408-
348-4425 or EscorthinSJ@hotmail.com

E52

Frat Boy Hunk

Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs

Deep throat and young jock ass.

5'9", 155#, 30" w, 8" 246-4460

E52

Handsome 6' 175 black hair brown

eyes a true 9x6 top. Gentlemen welcome Castro location, 24 hours to

please you. Clint 864-2974

E51

24hr vers. partyboy/sexy boytoy/
hung/sweaty4play/SF/out*207 0508

E51

LEATHER KINK

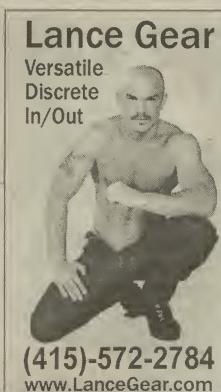
LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS

TAKING HIS TIME, TALL &

BUILT, FULL PLAYROOM.

RICK 431-0959

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Discrete
In/Out

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www.LanceGear.com

415.238.8155
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Mr. William
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SPICY HOT ASIAN

Li Chan pg r-202-9196

GREAT LOAD

HONEST 9" THICK CUT LARGE SMOOTH LOW HANGERS. MUSCULAR LEAN GYM BODY, BIG LOAD WHEREVER YOU NEED IT MOST. BLONDE, 3IYRS, 5'11", 170+, XLNT PERFORMER, TOTALLY ACCURATE AD. TOP STUD. OUT-CALLS CALL IAN-S120 IN S.F. 415.809.0264

HOT PORNSTAR JOEBOY
Gymnast Jock, 8.5" cut 5'8", 150
www.hometown.aol.com/JoeboySF
\$170 out, 415-430-1269 ext 1717

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CUM STARVED MUSCLE PUNK

Nick 709-1467
Submissive bottom Great service

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FORCEFUL PLOWING

By hot hung top pg 888 215 2268

E51

Party Party/346-4966/Ken/\$80

E52

S&M, bondage 24hrs into 208 8099

E51

33yo 5'5", 130# 8.5x6"

So, Italian Top - Out only

Angelo 415-414-4664

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PUERTO RICAN 24

Versatile, 5'10", 175lbs, muscular,
masculine, friendly, tattoos, very
attractive, passionate, 10cut,
down to earth. In/out Angelo

510-872-9918

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DOMINANT ASIAN TOP

Handsome good body 5'11", 160 lbs
Sexy \$80/in, 100/out David 297-6568

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LEATHER BEAR TOP

41 yo goodlooking hairy guy, 6'1"

225# 7" unc. See photo ad (Dom.

Leatherman) Bondage-SM, Have/Space

Scott (415) 414-1132 pg# In/out

E51

ORAL EXPERT

Blonde blue hung \$75 hr. 510 967 8340

E51

* HORNY- MSCLD- TOP-40 *

LTHR SEXY DAD

UNCUT 8" 5'9"- 165#- HDSM

Hairy+ buzzed * w/go-t * very gd

ying looking French Mediter.

Mscsexydad@aol.com/533 9143

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LIVE THE MYTH!

RENTDEREK.COM

GBM 9.5x6c 415.999.8322 \$200

E51

WWW.

TOTALTOP

.COM

E02

HOT LATINO GUY

Eric 305-6856 handsome, horny,

5'7", 140lbs clean cut in/out

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LATIN TOP BOY

5'8", 140#, 9"x6" hard tool

Friendly-aggressive; out only

Marco 24 hrs. *(415) 305-2474

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NEW AD -

MUSC AUSTRALIAN

Very handsome,hung,masculine,

friendly guy in S.F. for a short time.

Ready to travel in Bay Area

Call Rob 24/7 for hot, fun

time 415 377 2377

E51

PERSONALS

MODEL/ESCORTS

FRENCH MARINE
Bodybuilder,
220lbs, 6'1", 52ch, 21"A,
26 years.
New in town from
Paris, France
(415) 871-9037

MAKE YOU SWEAT



Strong, muscular, handsome, top
dark hairy chest, big piece of meat
and know how to use it. \$200
New in town. TJ. Pgr 415 210-0397

6'225# very handsome 34yo stud w/
THICK MUSCLES
Great thighs/calves & big many
muscle butt. Awesome hairy chest
19" arms; also avail. foot fetish

VISA/MC UNIFORM
fantasy, tickling, etc. 415 828 0748

HORSEHUNGLATIN
5'8" 155# Blk/brn 32w smooth
muscular build Robert 415 540 2284

Wanna watch a hung teen j/o?

18, HORNY, 8"
\$60 1/2 hr./\$100 hr. Pgr. 834-8170

HORNY LATIN BOY
22yo 5'8", 145# great body solid
great tool "B" In/out Jeremy
(415) 577-7778 Call 24/7

HOT SALSA
Versatile, well hung, handsome
travel available. 415 789 8094

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Masculine asianstud 5'9" 160 7"
uncut 415-586-1430 Michael

CHOCOLATE MILK
VGL 23yo, 5'10", 150+ lbs
Very friendly w/big tool in/out
Cameron 415-871-5610

GU MODEL
Very hot 28 yr old 5'9", 165#
slim muscular 8x6 cut
hot great butt. Older guys only
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davetyler@hotmail.com

Handsome 25yo w/packed shorts
SOCCER JOCK

Lean, athletic body-top
www.eromenos.com
Kevin pg #605-5328 in/out 24/7

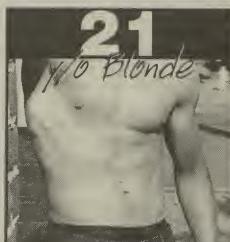
20 YO BLOND TWINKIE
8" cut Bl/Bn 5'11", 165lbs vers
Pics: www.RyanKid.com
\$160 outcalls 415-235-4156

ADORABLE WHITE BOY
New to biz. Recent pornstar
26, 5'9", 135#. 7.5x6 cut
very versatile & very talented!
24/7 out only SF only-\$200
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23yo old cute, muscular and
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29, smooth & muscular for massage
Alan @ (415) 221-3891

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In SF Dec 25-Jan 5, available for
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6FT, 165#, SMOOTH GYM
BUILT AND BEAUTIFULLY
HUNG MATT 560-7456 PGR



GOODLOOKING TOP
Ready 4 U now, muscular 170# 254-3457

HOT LATINBOY TOP
For daytime fun 5'7", 135,
dark w/tan line, thick 8"uc
shaved pubes. \$140/out
for aptt call Eric 273-4641 VM

9 CUT THK
VGL. SURFER BOY
TOP. OUT ONLY
415-540-2269

ASIAN FEVER
Chinese vers/top. 5'7", 130#, 30y
\$80/out only 415-563-8711
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NEW IN TOWN
Clean cut handsome 8 1/2 cut
out only 24/7 can travel
Older welcome 510 306 6827

SANTA'S HELPER
Fitness trainer 6/185 blond Adonis
Hot cleancut sexy goodlooks. A top!
Butt play specialist. Out 310-2930

NEW COLLEGE BOI
19yr, 195#, blnd/blu 4 great time
24-7 415-596-7386 - Chad

Smooth bottom Chris 370-4341

9 INCHES OF BLACKMEAT

Evening & weekends 510 336 1999 Tony

SIZE 12 FEET

TALL THIN 21YO WM

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IN OR OUT \$100/Hr.

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WANT IT ROUGH?

Lean smooth leather top, 33

gives it like you need it. Sling

FF/S/M/BD/T/TWS limits expanded

PAGE JACK 219-5608

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21 YO TOM CRUISE

Look a like. Talented boy top w/

rock hard 8" 24/7. In call SF

downtown/outcall (415) 540-2174

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MEXICAN 26

Versatile 5'9", 165lbs masculine,

handsome page me. Osvaldo 415

414 4264 In/out

E51

Dominant Leatherman

41yo,
6'1", 220lb.
Brown Hair,
flat top,
Blue Eyes,
mustache,
7" Uncut.

Bondage,
SM, WS,
CBT,
F/F,
Fetish,
Slave
Training.

Beginners Welcome

Have equipment and playspace.
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6'3", 235#

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erotic massage nipple play
body worship affection etc.
vanilla to rough always safe

Memorable • Discrete • Unhurried Service.

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Bi curious 6'10", 215 call 24hours
Private dance, modeling or escort
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HOT & HUNG BOTTOM 24

Brn/brn cute travel Bay Area
versatile outcall 24/7
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30yrs old, masculine
5'10", 155, blue eyes, tight
body, ripped abs, hung 9 thick
cleancut, vers, 902-9477

HOT LATIN BOY

Versatile 5'8", 145lbs. Great body
passionate "8", in/out. Joe
(415) 252-0430. New in town.

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BLUECOLLAR

JACK 415 835-4720

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BOYS ARE US!

All types, all areas, some 24/7
gives it like you need it. Sling

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CUBAN TOP UNCUT BIG TOOL

Gym body Jorge 63-7770

E51

Kevy's Black hard on 207-8865.OK

E51

BIG X-MAS PACKAGE-N-BALLS HANGIN-LOW-N-MY SS TO KISS "NGATH GREEN MISTLETOE

540-5311*Clint* Holidays Blow!

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S/M SENSUALITY

-long, & slow- my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
Lord 431-0959



Friendly • Discrete • Affectionate • Mild 2 Wild
Manny Santoya
(415) 336-3825



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9"fat-cut
Brown Hair
5 ft 175#
\$200
708-1579 PGR

Memorable • Discrete • Unhurried Service.



MARKUS

TENDER & SWEET 2 NASTY PIG

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*** MICKEY ROX ***

SEXY, HANDSOME, WELL BUILT
VERSATILE BOTTOM STUD.

PHONE FOR STATS 596-0562

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*****24HOURS*****

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24 exotic Eurolatino 6'1", 165

tattooed & pierced skaterpunk.

All fetishes accommodated! BDSM!

Private dungeon\*24/7\*by\*appt\*

Hot young experienced master

Ariel 207-5685

E51

**Oh Daddy!**

10.5 x 7.5  
6'3"  
190  
48

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Asian- spank.U. very-much-725 5805

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Issue date Jan 3, 2002: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001

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## XXX WEB

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Connect  
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E01-2002  
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Good Head in Sonoma County.  
Call Days 707-823-3895

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HOT SINGLES are waiting Tonight!  
On the Confidential Connection® 18+  
LISTEN & RECORD FREE!  
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Use Access code 4858

**24 HOUR MEN!**  
24 hours a day HOT HUNK MEN  
are looking to HOOK-UP on Club  
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**DISCREET ENCOUNTERS:**  
BE TEMPTED BY  
HOT SINGLES NOW!  
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Concord GAM luv sucking cock  
Sks 20-40s STD/HIV- G/Bi/BL/WM  
Pls no overweights 925 671 2704

**MR. SF LEATHER 2002**  
will be chosen at Club Townsend on  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH, 2002**  
Make plans now! Gear up now!

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**4 HUNG HUSKY STOCKY**  
From nice Latin 5'10" 155 drk hair  
brwn eyes (415) 863-1954 bottom hot.

**LIVE NUDE DILDO DEMO**  
Hot Cub! Private Hr/20 • 208-0078

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will be chosen on March 9, 2002.  
Are you man enough to hold the title?

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Bad Boys Spanked 415-864-2766

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\$20. + Travel. Robert (415) 777-5911

Big Boy wanted for Care + by dominant dad. • 665-4825

Hot Marine Cop in SF for Xmas into clean-cut muscle USMC jock strap group action. Tatts butt boner play. See ya at Circle J Ellis St. Sat Dec 22 12 Noon then on to 'Tearoom' 2PM Eddy St SF Put on your jock! Let's Buzz, Blow!

**FREE MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE 4 RIGHT PERSON**  
Airfare to Miami & 1 night hotel room plus a FREE! cruise for the right person with a valid passport and a good digital video camera. Cruise the Med. for 8 days and 7 nights with Comic Diva Shann Carr. Fly to Miami Jan 25th. Cruise departs Jan 26th, returns Feb 2. If you qualify, call (760)202-0404 for all details immed.

Hot nudist with deep throat seeks Dad age 50+ hung 9+ for oral and J/O fun/Ken/346-4966

Santa Rosa X military Sgt 6' 185# tight hole big cannon 707 523 4467. Mike Leave message.

Bare-Assed Spanking  
Experienced, Safe: 504-7776  
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E01-2002

## PERSONALS

## PEOPLE

**THE PLAY ROOM**

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FOR ONLY 19¢ Per min.

Connect Live 1 on 1!

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\$2.00  
976-7500

**Free**  
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Preview each guy before you decide to connect live!

Try it for

**FREE**  
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HOT Men are waiting to Tempt YOU!!! 18+ Only!  
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Use FREE code 2160

1-900-505-2323 (\$1.99/min.) 18+ Browse at [www.interactivemale.com](http://www.interactivemale.com)

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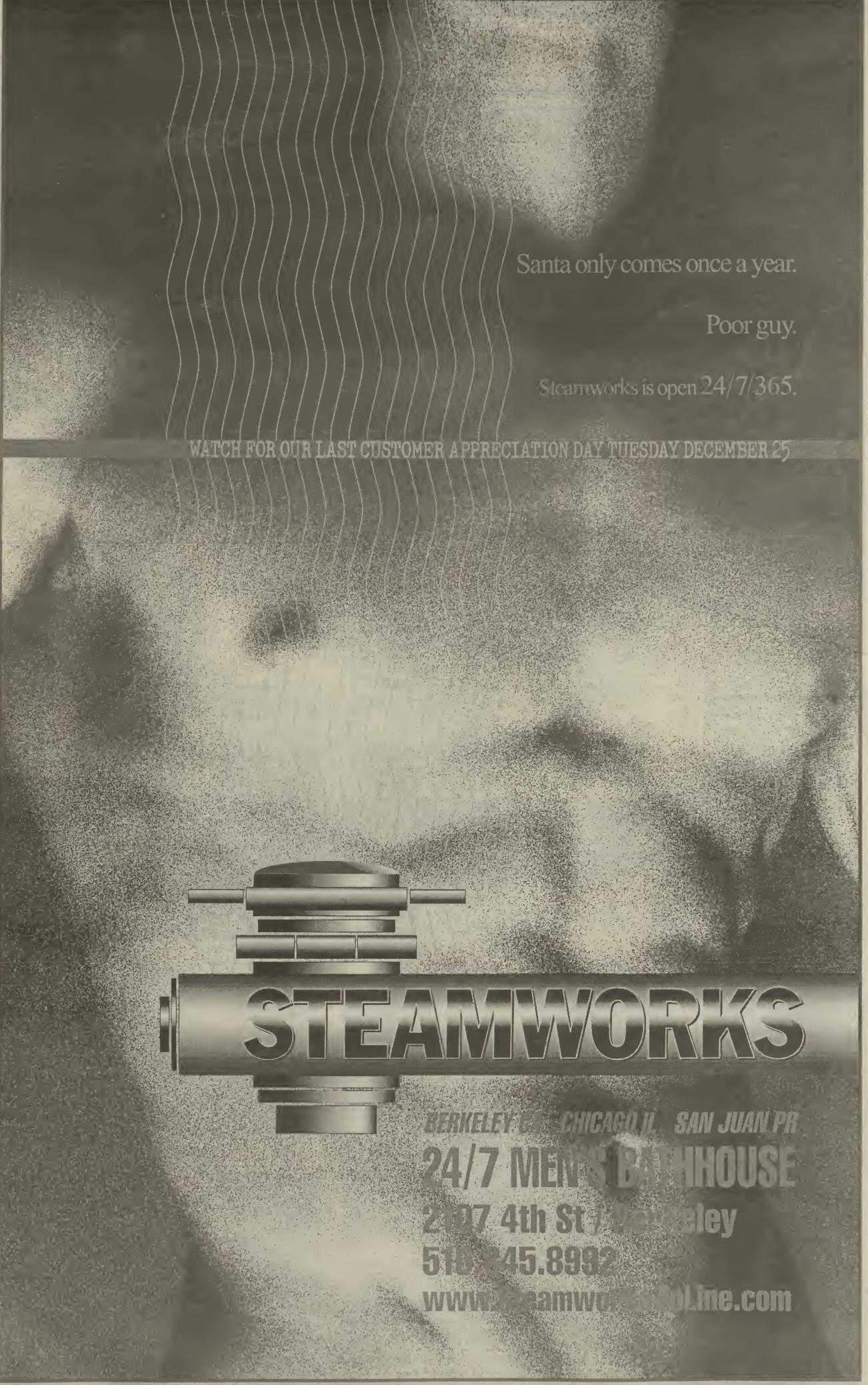
©2001 NTS 18+ Callers are not pre-screened. 800-825-1598.

**THE CONFIDENTIAL CONNECTION**  
advertisements to meet you!

| <b>BAY AREA REPORTER</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  | <b>CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM</b>                                                |  |                                                                                                                                      |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Indicate Type Style Here ▾                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |                                                                             |  |                                                                                                                                      |  |
| <b>DEADLINE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |                                                                             |  |                                                                                                                                      |  |
| NOON on MONDAY.<br>Payment must accompany ad.<br>No ads taken over the telephone. If you have a question, call 415.861.5019.<br>Display advertising rates available upon request.                                                                             |  |                                                                             |  |                                                                                                                                      |  |
| <b>RATES</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |                                                                             |  |                                                                                                                                      |  |
| First line, Regular 4.50<br>All subsequent lines 3.00<br>CAPS double price<br>BOLD double price<br>X-BOLD triple price                                                                                                                                        |  |                                                                             |  |                                                                                                                                      |  |
| <b>PAYMENT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  | <b>CREDIT CARD PAYMENT</b>                                                  |  | <b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>                                                                                                           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash<br><input type="checkbox"/> Personal Check<br><input type="checkbox"/> Money Order<br><input type="checkbox"/> Visa<br><input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard<br><input type="checkbox"/> American Express<br>Minimum \$10 charge. |  | Card Number _____<br>Expiration Date _____<br>Signature _____<br>Name _____ |  | Name _____<br>Address _____<br>City _____ State _____ Zip _____<br>Number of Issues _____ Classification _____ Amount Enclosed _____ |  |
| <b>MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO:</b><br>Bay Area Reporter<br>395 Ninth Street<br>SF, CA 94103<br><b>OR FAX TO:</b><br>415.861.8144<br><b>OR E-MAIL:</b><br><a href="mailto:baradv@aol.com">baradv@aol.com</a>                                                         |  |                                                                             |  |                                                                                                                                      |  |

**Holiday ad deadlines are changed for the weeks of Christmas and New Year.**

**Issue date Dec. 27, 2001: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001**  
**Issue date Jan 3, 2002: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001**



Santa only comes once a year.

Poor guy.

Steamworks is open 24/7/365.

**WATCH FOR OUR LAST CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY TUESDAY DECEMBER 25**



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**24/7 MEN'S BATHHOUSE**

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510.845.8992

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